FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PERON TO RETURN 20 MAY; ASKS FOR DIALOGUE DELAY

PY040142 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2217 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 May (TELAM) -- Lawyer Juan Gabriel Labake, a member of the liaison commission, today told TELAM that in the course of a telephone conversation between President Alfonsin and Mrs Peron today, the latter informed the chief executive that she will return to Buenos Aires on 20 May. Labake explained that Mrs Peron asked President Alfonsin to delay the beginning of dialogue between the government and the Justicialist Party until after her arrival. Labake added that Isabel Peron told the president of the nation that she was coming back to take over the leadership of the Peronist movement. The former president will leave for Argentina on 19 May from the Barajas Airport, in Madrid.

Government To Delay Dialogue

PY040301 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Excerpt] Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez refers to the announcements made at the beginning of this program which refer to political dialogue summoned by the president of the Republic.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] "30 milliones" meets with presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez whom we will ask what latest events have taken place during the past few hours regarding the meeting the president will hold with the political leadership.

[Lopez] A few minutes ago Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli met with the president of the nation to inform him that the Justicialist Party has requested that the scheduled date to begin the meetings be postponed. Taking into account that the request to postpone the meeting was made by the second most important political party of the country, the president has decided to postpone the beginning of the political meetings.

[Reporter] Therefore, we could say that the schedule of meetings is postponed....

[Lopez] It will be postponed for a couple of weeks. We believe that the meetings might start around 21 May.

[Reporter] Does this mean that the former president [Mrs Peron] will be in the country for that dialogue?

[Lopez] Well, this is the information disclosed by the Justicialist liaison commission, this has been the Justicialist Party's argument in requesting the postponement of the meeting.

[Reporter] Did President Alfonsin hold a direct conversation with Mrs Maria Estela Martinez de Peron today?

[Lopez] Yes, at noon today the president spoke to Maria Estela Martinez de Peron in Madrid. As you know, the president has been wanting to hold this conversation with her for some days now and had not been able to do so until noon today. During this conversation Mrs Peron voiced her desire to come to Buenos Aires.

REDUCTION OF MILITARY SERVICE YEAR PROPOSED

PY031850 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1555 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 May (NA) -- According to a press report made today, Defense Minister Raul Borras has reportedly proposed to reduce the military year "to 9 months only" to make up for the military budget's reduction. The daily newspaper AMBITO FINANCIERO says that "(with this measure), the Armed Forces will reportedly not operate during July, January, and February."

During a meeting with top Army and Air Force officers, the minister reportedly admitted "the restrictions imposed "by the miilitary budget's reduction.

AMBITO FINANCIERO adds that Borras reportedly proposed to resolve the problem by reducing the military year to only 9 months because there are not enough funds for 12 months. To corroborate this statement, AMBITO FINANCIERO mentions the extension from 10 to 30 days, which has already been approved, of the leave taken by Armed Forces personnel in July.

FEDERAL POLICE PRESENT PETITION; STRIKE AVOIDED

PY031853 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1436 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 May (TELAM) -- After a meeting held at Government House this morning with presidential adviser Atilio Marchini, Argentine federal police noncommissioned personnel decided not to adopt any coercive measures or request the resignations of the federal police authorities. At the end of the meeting with the police delegation, Marchini said that the petitions made by the delegation will continue to be analyzed in future meetings and that they will be conveyed to President Raul Alfonsin. Police representatives said at the end of the meeting that they would not adopt any coercive measures because they believed that a solution would be found to the problem. However, they said that they will meet again tomorrow to review the main points of the petition.

Police Chief on Demands

PY031903 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpt] Regarding the demonstration that police noncommissioned officers held today, we must note that the Federal police chief, Inspector General (Antonio Dibietri) this morning held a press conference during which he said that noncommissioned officers are trying to create a nation-wide destabilization. [as heard]

Minister: Demands 'Legitimate'

PY040051 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1638 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 May (TELAM) -- Argentine Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli today said that the salary demands of federal police noncommissioned officers are legitimate but the procedure employed to make them public is lamentable. Troccoli made these remarks in response to journalists' questions when he arrived at a downtown hotel to attend a luncheon arranged by the association of business executives.

The minister made it clear that the public security services have been guaranteed and emphasized that the demonstrations prompted by salary demands drew only 120 noncommissioned officers of the 35,000-man strong federal police force.

NINE-PERCENT WAGE HIKE ORDERED FOR MAY

PY032246 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 May 84 p 1

[Text] (NA) -- The Government yesterday ordered a nine percent wage hike for May in addition to fresh increases in family benefits. Meanwhile economy ministry sources disclosed that the government is hoping to bring the inflation rate down to 13 percent this month. Family benefits thus rise from $A100 [Argentine pesos] to $A250 per spouse and from $A225 to $A250 per child. A worker earning the minimum wage of $A5,030 would therefore effectively receive a 11.7 percent increase if he were married with two children.

Press rumours prior to the announcement had centred on a figure of 12 percent and it was reported that this figures had been defended by newly appointed Labour Minister Juan Manuel Casella. However Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun finally prevailed, reliable sources reported.

The real wage is thus scheduled to fall by four percentage points even if the government's inflation forecast proves to be correct for the first time in five months. This follows hard upon an estimated fall of 5.5 percent in April since the wage award for that month was 13 percent while inflation is estimated to have been 18.5 percent.

EX-VICE ADMIRAL HELD IN DISAPPEARANCE CASE

PY032254 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 May 84 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Mar del Plata Retired Vice-Admiral Juan Carlos Lombardo was detained at the local Navy base after Federal Judge Eduardo Pettigiani charged him with "misrepresentation of facts" and "illegal detention" in the court case investigating the disappearance and death of a young girl, Rosa Ana Frigerio, in 1976. The report was given by the legal counsel to the Frigerio family, Armando Fortitta, but the judge declined to comment on whether this was true. Navy base authorities said on the telephone that they had "no information to give."

Fortitta said that Lombardo, who commanded the Mar del Plata base in 1976 and 1977 and later headed the joint forces command in the South Atlantic during the 1982 Malvinas war with Britain, was questioned by Judge Pettigiani, who immediately ordered his detention at the base. Court sources said the preventive arrest warrant had not yet been issued, but was to be expected soon.

Sources said Lombardo had admitted before the judge last April 12 that Ms Frigerio had been held at the base in 1976, at the disposal of the executive branch. The girl was captured at her Mar del Plata home on August 25, 1976 in front of her parents and neighbours. Early on, the parents were told that she was at the Navy base at the disposal of the executive, but the authorities later denied this, and the girl was regarded as missing. Later, the same authorities who had confirmed and then denied Ms Frigerio's presence at the base said she had died in a "confrontation" with security forces on March 7, 1977. The corpse was never returned. Rosa Ana's parents challenged this report on the grounds that at the time of her abduction their daughter was unable to move owing to back injuries suffered in a car accident.

A court investigation turned up her corpse in a local cemetery in 1982. At that time, the girl's parents asked that Lombardo be summoned to testify in the cases. But the retired officer did not appear in court until last April 12, when he admitted that the girl had been held at the base while he commanded it. He was detained Tuesday night after testifying for the second time.

GOVERNMENT DENIES BORDER INCIDENTS WITH PERU

PY031618 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 27 Apr 84 p 3

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry's Diplomatic Information Department has stated in a communique that no disagreements or incidents have occurred with Peru over border issues.

Regarding reports about disagreements and incidents between residents of Canana and Patahuata Islands in Lake Titicaca, the communique recalls that the territory transfer protocol signed between Bolivia and Peru on 15 January 1932 established Peru's sovereignty over the islands.

72-HOUR WORKERS STRIKE ENTERS THIRD DAY

Labor Firm 2d Day

PY030343 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1925 GMT 2 May 84

[By Adalid Cabrera Lemuz]

[Excerpt] La Paz, 2 May (EFE) -- Bolivian workers today went into the second day of their general strike against the government without obtaining economic agreements from the authorities, who are concerned about the danger that is hovering over this country's democracy.

The powerful Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) has urged the labor sector to continue the strike until the utmost consequences, because it considers that it is the only instrument "that will get their economic petitions heard" by the government.

Meanwhile, the top leaders of the factory sector, the second most powerful sector within the Bolivian labor movement, have declared a staggered hunger strike, which will begin today, against President Hernan Silez Zuazo's government.

The factory workers have been on an indefinite strike since last week.

Except for the emergency health care, telecommunications, and public transport sectors, which are functioning irregularly, everything is totally paralyzed on this second day of the 3-day general strike which was ordered by the COB.

The streets and avenues of the country's main departmental capitals remain empty and silent due to the COB's order that not even radio and television stations are to broadcast programs.

The government has made every type of effort with the labor unions to get them to lift the strike because it considers it an attack against a strengthening of the democratic process that started just 19 months ago after 18 years of dictatorships.

Siles Zuazo called in Juan Lechin Oquendo, the top Bolivian labor leader, for a meeting that has been considered "crucial" in order to define and probably iron out the differences between the unions and the executive branch.

In its turn, the president's economic team met with the COB leadership with the purpose of achieving agreements regarding the supply of foodstuffs, salary increases, and the sectoral problems on the union.

Lechin has stressed that the workers must undertake the task of "destroying the economic package that the government approved on 12 April and which has become a very harsh burden for the majority of the people."

Hundreds of thousands of workers who participated in the march on Labor Day have categorically rejected the government's measures, and they have accused Siles Zuazo of "selling himself to the interests of imperialism and of having given in to the IMF's demands."

Prospects Brighten Day Three

PY040130 Paris AFP in Spanish 1749 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] La Paz, 3 May (AFP) -- The conclusion today of the 72-hour strike decreed by the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) and the intensification of negotiations to seek solutions to the serious economic crisis can be decisive factors for the country's political future, local analysts said today.

Government sources have reportedly stated that the worker-government talks under way have better prospects because agreements have been reached on how to deal with the demands made by the various sectors.

Today the finance, industry and commerce, and labor ministers met with workers to discuss the wage problem and the basic products price scale.

The government reiterated its offer to grant a $100 bonus to all wage earners to compensate for the drop in the purchasing power of wages, which has dropped 200 percent due to the 300 percent [as received] devaluation recently decreed by the government along with other drastic economic measures.

The government and the workers will continue to discuss other serious problems tomorrow. The negotiations are taking place amid a national 72-hour strike decreed by the COB to demand implementation of its emergency economic plan, which grants the state hegemonic control over the economy.

Factory workers are holding an indefinite general strike and their leaders, who have begun a voluntary fast, have announced that approximately 200 workers from various factories will join the fast daily to increase pressure on the government.

The strike was broken by two newspapers which appeared yesterday and today.

In La Paz, some bus companies are in service, and only one union radio station and the military-owned radio are operating.

As a result of the suspension of financial activities, the price of the dollar dropped on the black market. In turn, this caused an increase in the purchase of dollars, thus causing another increase it its price.

On Camacho Avenue in downtown La Paz, the dollar was sold at 3,300 Bolivian pesos, when at the beginning of the strike it was sold at 2,900 pesos. The official exchange rate is 2,000 pesos to a U.S. dollar.

In an attempt to normalize economic and state activities, the labor and transport and communications ministers and the minister secretary general of the presidency have warned employees of the state television company that harsh measures will be adopted against them if they do not return to work on Friday. The employees are holding an indefinite strike to demand the reinstatement of the company's general manager, who was dismissed by the information minister.

Central Bank employees, who are preventing implementation of the economic measures, are being pressured by the public and private sector and by labor organizations to normalize their activities, because the lack of circulating currency is causing long lines at banks.

UNION OILWORKERS OCCUPY U.S. OIL COMPANY

PY031700 Paris AFP in Spanish 1536 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] La Paz, 3 May (AFP) -- Today it was reported in La Paz that the oilworkers union of the U.S. enterprise Occidental Petroleum Company has occupied the latter's offices and oil and gas fields in Santa Cruz, located some 1,000 km east of La Paz, demanding salary increases and fringe benefits.

This occupation is taking place at a time when the powerful Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) has already celebrated 48 out of the 72 hours of the general strike that was called at a leaders meeting last week.

The oilworkers are asking one of the two U.S. companies that are currently operating in Bolivia (the other one is TESORO) for a 200-percent salary increase, a housing allowance, and other fringe benefits.

It has been reported that this occupation could cause problems for Finance Minister Flavio Machicado Saravia's trip to Washington which was scheduled for today in order to secure a $200-million credit for the faltering Bolivian economy.

Finally, it could be ascertained that this action is being reviewed by U.S. Ambassador Edwin G. Corr and Bolivian Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister Luis Saucedo.

BRIEFS

NEW COMMERCE MINISTRY OFFICIAL -- Yesterday Fernando Bueno Bonina was sworn in as the new head of the Industry and Commerce Ministry's Department for Domestic Commerce Affairs. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 27 Mar 84 p 7 PY]

FRG CONGRESSMEN VISITING -- La Paz, 24 Apr (AFP) -- Axel Wernitz, head of a delegation of FRG congressmen visiting Bolivia, during a meeting with Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata voiced his country's desire to cooperate in the struggle against drug trafficking. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1420 GMT 24 Apr 84 PY]

FIGUEIREDO, PARAGUAYAN PRESIDENT MEET IN UBERABA

PY040012 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpts] Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo left Araguari and arrived at Uberaba at 1030 today. Figueiredo, who opened the 50th national Zebu cattle fair, was received by Governor Tancredo Neves. Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner, who was invited by the sponsors of the fair, arrived shortly thereafter. The two presidents held a 1-hour meeting at the headquarters of the Brazilian Association of Zebu Cattle Raisers. Figueiredo then accompanied President Stroessner to Uberaba Airport.

CHAVES CONDITIONS CANDIDACY ON DIRECT VOTE

PY031410 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 30 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Asked whether he will withdraw his candidacy if the present electoral rules providing for indirect elections are maintained, Vice President Aureliano Chaves said: Yes, that is correct. At a meeting he held yesterday with Deputy Sebastiao Nery (Democratic Workers' Party-Rio de Janeiro State), Chaves again admitted the possibility of withdrawing his candidacy.

Mincing his words, Deputy Nery quoted word for word what Chaves told him yesterday afternoon. "Chaves said: I wanted very much to become governor of Minas Gerais State and ended up being elected by the indirect vote. But I do not want to become president of the Republic that way. If direct elections are held, I will attempt to seek the presidency because I know that under this system it will be the people who will judge and decide."

Chaves also told a group of people who visited him last Saturday at Jaburu Palace that he was considering withdrawing his candidacy if indirect elections are held. He made it clear, however, that he would only make a decision after talking with Figueiredo and [former President Ernesto] Geisel and that he would announce his decision in Minas Gerais. He has already met with Figueiredo and will be leaving tomorrow for Belo Horizonte.

SOME RESTRICTIONS ON ARGENTINE PRODUCTS LIFTED

PY040137 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Apr 84 p 17

[Text] The day before yesterday, Brazil signed a trade agreement with Argentina whereby the Brazilian Government will immediately lift all administrative restrictions imposed on purchased Argentine products. It also includes the possibility of lifting the same restrictions from nonnegotiated products, according to a report made by CACEX (Bank of Brazil's Foreign Trade Department) Director Carlos Viacava in Sao Paulo yesterday.

Viacava said that after a long time, Argentina has finally adopted a different negotiating position by seeking greater rapprochement with Brazil. The CACEX director said that for this reason, the agreement is "the basis for a Brazilian-Argentine common market."

Viacava said that "Argentine Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun has stated that Latin America is almost self-sufficient and that if we create a Brazilian-Argentine common market, we will not need to import products from any other country. Things do not really work this way, but all the same we are excited over the possibility of creating this market because we will be able to reactivate our economy and increase jobs."

Viacava explained that the agreement will be implemented in various stages. In addition to lifting all restrictions, on Monday the Argentines will change the conditions they have demanded to finance Brazilian imports. Argentina currently demands 90 days to pay for negotiated products and from 180 to 360 days for nonnegotiated products. Based on the agreement, Argentine importers will be able to pay for Brazilian negotiated products on sight and nonnegotiated products within a 120-day term. The measure will be reciprocal because although Brazil did not demand the same conditions, it will nevertheless adopt them.

Carlos Viacava added that a work group made up of Argentine and Brazilian representatives will shortly hold meetings to draw up an agricultural agreement to lift all administrative restrictions. Viacava said that under this agreement waybills will be issued automatically and the parties will establish low tariff rates.

"This radical change will help to integrate the two markets," the CACEX director said.

The work group has also been charged with making a statistical study on products, importation and exportation possibilities, and industrial cooperation. Viacava said that Brazil, for example, is interested in establishing industrial cooperation in the field of machinery and tools because the two countries do not have self-sufficient industrial infrastructures [escala industrial economica]. Viacava said that one of the countries could produce a specific component and the other assemble the machinery or complete the remaining parts.

Viacava also reported that on Monday, Brazil and Argentina will review Agreement No 1 signed at the ALADI (Latin American Integration Association), adding that Argentine garlic and apple imports must be included under the agricultural agreement. The CACEX has already authorized a 50-percent increase in the May garlic import quota.

BANK USES SATELLITE TO LINK UP BRANCHES

PY040110 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 May 84

[Special report by (Vera Lucia), for the "Primera Hora" program -- no date given]

[Text] BRADESCO [Brazilian Discount Bank] is already using the Brazilian domestic satellite to link up its branches.

[Begin (Rossi) recording] During a press conference granted yesterday afternoon in the city of [name indistinct] BRADESCO's board of directors here in Sao Paulo reported on the official opening today, Thursday, of the link of the BRADESCO branch in Boa Vista, Roraima territory, with the BRADESCO real time system through the use of the stationary INTELSAT IV satellite of EMBRATEL [Brazilian Telecommunications Company] as a transmitting medium.

This is the first time in Brazil that a satellite has been used for the real time linkage of a bank's branch. The next link will be established with the [BRADESCO] branch in Rio Branco, Acre State, in June. BRADESCO's board of directors regards this linkage via satellite as very important because of the experience gathered for using the domestic satellite once it becomes available. With this linkage the [BRADESCO] branch customers in Boa Vista, Roraima territory, will be able to profit from the advantages rendered by the banking information now supplied in the world's largest financial markets. BRADESCO now has 225 branches linked to the real time system. [end recording]

INTERIOR MINISTER RETURNS TO POST AFTER SURGERY

Discusses Socioeconomic Council

PY040003 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 3 May 84

[Report from Government House by Osvaldo Vega]

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa today resumed his post after spending more than 2 weeks in the military hospital as a result of an operation which he underwent on 14 April. One of his first acts was to call a press conference at noon.

During his press conference, Minister Jarpa spoke at length about the new socioeconomic council recently created by the government. He reiterated that this council will advise the president of the nation until the law establishing its specific powers is approved. He explained that a draft of this law will be studied by the members of the council at meetings which will be held in May with himself presiding.

He said that the objective of the council is to endow the nation with a public forum at which workers, businessmen, and government can hold discussions in an atmosphere of unity and harmony, and not of social struggle, on socioeconomic issues submitted by the chief executive.

He explained that this is an effort to depoliticize social and economic relations in order to preclude political distortions and demagogic approaches to problems.

A list of members of the socioeconomic council was distributed during the press conference. This list included the names of the members and the position they currently hold in the labor or business sectors. Among the members is Hugo Estivales, leader of the workers of Andina copper mine, whose name was not included in the list of members released yesterday due to a typographical error, the press was told.

Council To Have 99 Members

PY040006 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The official gazette today published the Interior Ministry decree establishing the socioeconomic council which the president of the nation himself announced on 1 May. The decree states that the council will be presided over by the interior minister and its duty will be to advise the president on social and economic matters which will be submitted for its consideration.

The members of the council will be selected by the president of the nation from a list of names suggested by the interior minister and they will serve a 1-year renewable term.

The socioeconomic council will be made up of 99 members, according to information disclosed by Acting Interior Minister Alfonso Marquez de la Plata. Among them is the Chairman of the National Bank Association (Jorge Yarur), Chairman of the Production and Trade Confederation Jorge Fontaine, Chairman of the Industrial Development Association Ernesto Ayala, and Pedro Briceno and (Humberto Barret) as representatives of the workers.

VALDES ON AD ACHIEVEMENTS, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH

PY040105 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpts] Gabriel Valdes has said that among the main achievements of the Democratic Alliance [AD] under his leadership are the day of national protest staged in March, the political proposals, and the contacts with other political parties. Valdes said that the day of national protest forced the government to abandon the economic policy of the Chicago boys. He added that there are still a few of them who have to resign but undoubtedly the March protest yielded the best results of all staged in the country.

[Begin Valdes recording] It proved that the protests are also effective for the attainment of goals other than their stated objectives, because the government has finally realized that they are indeed channels through which the citizenry expresses itself. [end recording]

Valdes reported that the economic and social proposal of the AD, which was drawn up with the help of Christian Democrat Sergio Molina, former finance minister, is ready. He also said that everyone except the government has heeded the call for dialogue by the archbishop of Santiago. He added:

[Begin Valdes recording, in progress] ...an invitation to all political parties interested in democracy. This document does not propose, the AD does not propose, any kind of dialogue with the government. What we seek is to reach specific agreements with all political parties. [end recording]

Valdes reiterated that despite all efforts the government has failed to come up with the right response.

[Begin Valdes recording] Just 2 days ago we listened to a description of a program which is far from being a real course of action because it was merely a vague enumeration of political laws which will be studied in the future and enacted in a few years. The tone of this speech disappointed those who expected the government to realize the pressure of time and the serious nature of the crisis. [end recording]

The political leader said that the government does not understand that the people are unanimously calling for deadlines and for the hastening of the process of a peaceful transition to democracy.

POLITICAL PARTIES DRAFT BILL SUMMARIZED

PY031310 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 25 Apr 84 pp 4, 5

[Text] The draft bill on political parties which has been submitted to the president is made up of 59 permanent articles that are distributed under 9 titles: 1) Inherent Activities of Political Parties; 2) Establishment of Political Parties; 3) Procedure to Join Political Parties; 4) Internal Organization and Representation of Political Parties; 5) Financing of Political Parties; 6) Merger and Federation of Parties; 7) Dissolution of Parties; 8) Punishments; and 9) Pertinent Regulations. The bill also includes three temporary measures.

The bill was drafted by the Council of State and the Fernandez Commission. The first report was issued on 30 January and the second on 5 April.

Article 1 notes: "Political parties are associations that citizens join of their own will. They are legally recognized organizations whose objective is to contribute, under the terms of the present law, to the functioning of the constitutional democratic regime."

The report notes that under no circumstances is the objective of this report to establish a definition of political parties or their goals since this will only be achieved through the combining of all relevant elements demanded by the present law.

Article 2 establishes: "The inherent activities of each political party consist in upholding and carrying out the normal and permanent activities of organizations based on certain shared political ideals with the purpose of upholding them in public life so as to exercise a true influence on the overall aspects of the handling of government matters for the benefit of the national community."

It notes that in order to develop their activities, political parties may put forth their declaration of principles, policies, and program of government for public consideration. They may also put forth their initiatives and criteria for the public sector. They may participate in elections and plebiscites and contribute to educating citizens to discharge public responsibilities.

The report establishes that it is not convenient to describe in an exhaustive and exaggerated manner the field of action of political parties, since it is too vast.

Article 3 establishes: "The declaration of principles of political parties will clearly state that they shall respect the existing constitutional order although they have the right to advocate its amendment through the means established by this order."

The objective of this measure is that politicians will not promote the violation of the established laws but will either improve them or amend them in keeping with the legal means that are accessible to all citizens.

Regarding the establishment of political parties, the ensuing articles note that political parties will be legally recognized as such after they are registered in the Political Parties Registry that will be entrusted to the director of the Electoral Service.

To establish a political party, there must be at least 100 citizens who are free from any ban to vote. They are to sign an affidavit before a notary public, which must be submitted to the Electoral Service.

Article 6 states that each new party must have a minimum membership of 20,000 and that this figure is to be adjusted each time there is a general population census. The Council of State reported that this figure has been accepted by the majority of political parties and that it is a large figure so as to discourage the proliferation of ficticious parties with the objective of impairing congressional elections and political activity in general.

Citizens may join a party by signing a statement before a notary public or an official of the registry office. No citizen shall be allowed to register in more than one political party.

The following items will not be accepted as symbols or emblems of parties: the national coat of arms or the national flag; pictures or images of individuals in public office, either alive or dead. Also prohibited are reproductions that are immoral, offensive, or contrary to public order, and symbols, words, phrases, or expressions, both of a foreign and domestic nature, which are well known to stand for parties, groups, movements, or ideologies that are contrary to the Constitution and the law.

The director of the Electoral Registry will issue a pronouncement on the acceptance or rejection of a given party within a maximum period of 40 days.

Article 20 establishes four directives: 1) Only those citizens whose right to vote has not been banned may join a party, excluding those under 18 years of age and foreigners; 2) No citizen can join more than one party at the same time without relinquishing his previous membership in another party; 3) Any party member may resign his membership at any time without mentioning the reasons for his decision; and 4) Membership will be in keeping with the party statutes only in those cases that are not contemplated in the law.
The report adds that "Chileans under 18 years of age are excluded [from party membership] with the purpose of protecting them from adopting commitments at an age when people are still maturing. This does not mean, however, that young people cannot participate in those party organizations designed for young people, either for training or other purposes. But this does not entitle them to exercise the rights of a full member."

Each political party must have a list of its members and must submit a duplicate of this list to the Electoral Service for publication. This list of party members may be consulted by the public in keeping with the regulations.

Each party is obliged to exhibit its members list to the members of a qualified electoral court, the constitutional court, and to any party member.

The president of the Republic, cabinet members, under secretaries, ambassadors, and the chiefs of the presidential advisory bodies will be suspended from their rights and duties as members of political parties. This is established in Article No 22 with the objective of guaranteeing their independence.

Heading No IV refers to the internal organization and representativity of political parties.

Article 23 notes that the organization and operation of each party will be in keeping with its statutes. It establishes that these statutes should be within the framework of the law established by the Constitution so as to guarantee an effective internal democracy.

Until the Senate ' installed, it will fall upon the government junta to approve the ap-' of the director of the Electoral Service. This is established e included in the political parties bill.

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The third temporary article seeks to clarify eventual misunderstandings that may arise between the new parties if they try to use names that belonged to political parties that existed prior to 11 September 1973.

Each party will have a national council that will appoint a president and vice president, a political commission, and members of a higher tribunal. Moreover, the national council may approve or reject the decision of the party to join federations and electoral pacts, and approve or reject the proclamation of candidates for the presidency of the Republic.

The national council of each party will be made up of no more than 1/3 of the members of the political commission, party legislators, and other persons who are entitled to be members because of their rank, as well as regional, provincial, and community representatives.

The political commission of each party will be in charge of the political leadership of the party in keeping with the declaration of principles. It shall be made up of the president and vice president of the party, and of the number of members established in the party statutes, elected by the national council, for terms that shall not exceed 2 years. No more than 1/3 of the members of the political commission may be deputies and senators.

Each party will have an executive board. Its president shall be empowered to head the political leadership in keeping with the agreements adopted by the political commission and to lead the internal management of the party.

Each party will have a higher tribunal which shall guarantee the proper enforcement of the law in internal elections, properly interpret the statutes, and issue regulations. It will also hear complaints of violations of the declaration of principles or statutes. Only the higher tribunal will be authorized to expel or suspend a member.

The statutes of each party will establish regulations for the support or sponsoring of candidates for deputy and senator.

In special cases authorized by the statutes, the president of the party and the political commission may issue recommendations to party legislators regarding congressional activities and the votes they will cast in congressional plenary sessions.

Under no circumstances will political parties issue orders regarding congressional voting to those legislators who are members of the party.

Political parties will not be allowed to issue to their members orders or recommendations regarding the rejection or acceptance of advisory posts that may be offered to them by the president of the Republic.

Article 26 notes: "Parties will not be allowed to receive funds or credits from foreigners or foreign or international organizations of any nature, from professional associations, or from union federations or confederations."

"However, they may accept contributions from naturalized citizens who have lived in Chile for at least the previous 5 years."

Each party will keep a book in which disbursements and incomes are recorded, an inventory book, and a balance sheet book, and they will keep supporting documents. Political parties will issue a balance sheet each calendar year and will send a copy to the director of the Electoral Service, who may either approve or reject it.

Article 29 establishes the possibility for state funding of political parties by noting: "The terms of Articles 25 to 28 shall not rule out direct or indirect state funding, which may be provided for in a constitutional organic law on a public electoral system regarding candidates for president of the nation and for seats in the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate."

Article 30 establishes that those documents issued in connection with procedures related to the formation of parties which are referred to in this law are exempted from any tax or contribution of any nature. The contributions of party members, the donations, and the assets bequethed to the parties shall also be exempted from any tax or contribution of any nature.

"The buildings in which parties have their headquarters and which are owned by parties shall be exempt from all federal and municipal taxes of any nature, provided said buildings are exclusively for party activities."

The merger and federation of parties is included under Heading VI, as of Article 31.

The report submitted by the Council of State notes: "It is believed that this issue should be discussed so that political parties may group and establish mergers or federations on the basis of common goals, either to establish lasting or temporary undertakings. Furthermore, the federation may be a tool that will gradually lead to the merging of parties and therefore to a decrease in the number of political parties."

"Two or more parties may establish a federation."

"Federations may only be agreed on by the respective political commissions with the approval of the respective national councils."

Political parties can only be dissolved by agreement of the members at the proposal of the national council: for failing to have obtained a seat in the Chamber of Deputies; because of merger with another party; for not having obtained 5 percent of the votes in an election for deputies; for having a drop in its membership to a figure less than 50 percent of the minimum number demanded by the law to constitute a political party; and by a decision of the constitutional court to declare the political party unconstitutional.

Title VII encompasses the punishments that may be applied for certain violations of the laws.

Article 47 establishes that any political party that carries out an action not in keeping with the activities of a political party shall be punished. These punishments range from sanctions to the dissolution of the party.

SOVIET MEDIA CHARGES ON ANTARCTICA REFUTED

PY030244 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 24 Apr 84 p A 14

[Text] Foreign Relations Under Secretary Humberto Julio yesterday denied the charges made by a Soviet newspaper that Chile wants to take control of Antarctica. Julio said that "such a comment deserves no further study."

Last week the Soviet newspaper SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA, in referring to President Augusto Pinochet's visit to Villa Las Estrellas -- located near the Teniente Marsh base -- stated that this visit clearly reveals Chile's interest in taking control of Antarctica.

Julio stated that the Soviet Union has signed the Antarctic Treaty; therefore, it is aware of the commitments undertaken by those countries that claim sovereignty, those that do not claim sovereignty, and those that do not acknowledge the sovereignty of others.

"At present it is not a matter of recognizing sovereignty, which is frozen until the treaty expires, but this does not mean that both we and the Soviets cannot continue to carry out actions on what we consider our territory."

Julio stated that there is a difference in what the newspaper says about Chile and what the Soviet Union upholds in the Antarctic Treaty. "I would say that that newspaper's position is not in keeping with the Soviet stance before international organizations. There are so many Soviet media reports that deserve no further study."

Despite this criteria, there could be a question as to whether Chile should have consulted the remaining treaty members before establishing the Villa Las Estrellas. "I want to point out that there is no need for consultations since commitments in this regard have been undertaken and there will be no problem so long as those settlements do not violate them."

The under secretary pointed out that for the time being there are no other settlements in Antarctica similar to those established by Chile in Villa Las Estrellas. "Argentina has done something similar but it is not exactly the same as the Chilean settlements. We are establishing a difference between scientific settlements and community settlements."

So far the older settlements, which are more numerous than the ones currently established near the Teniente Marsh base, such as the one established by the scientist who worked at the "Geophysical Year" program, have not been questioned. For these reasons Julio concluded by stating that it is probably just a political position upheld by the newspaper SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA, just a propagandistic, critical, and political attack.

ANSA NEWS AGENCY OFFICE OCCUPIED BY ARMED GROUP

PY040247 Paris AFP in Spanish 0158 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 3 May (AFP) -- A group of heavily armed individuals barged into the office of the Italian news agency ANSA tonight and forced the personnel on duty to transmit a subversive proclamation via teletype.

Radio Chilena of this capital reported that the commando group left behind a package, presumably containing explosives, which was opened by personnel of security services.

The individuals identified themselves as members of a mysterious group called the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) which has already claimed responsibility for several actions, the last of which caused injuries to 26 persons when a bomb went off in the Santiago subway last Sunday.

The FPMR has reiterated its apolitical character in its communiques, although its objective is to destabilize the Pinochet regime.

PROTESTER BANISHED FOR 3 MONTHS TO BAQUEDANO

PY030238 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 23 Apr 84 p 4

[By Emilio Figueroa C.]

[Excerpt] In compliance with an Interior Ministry decision that was announced by Major General Juan Guillermo Toro Davila, intendant of the 12th Region and chief of the state of emergency zone, Jose Dagoberto Oyarzun Uribe of the Magallanes region has been banished for a 3-month period to Baquedano.

In the official communique it is stated that Oyarzun Uribe has taken part in innumerable acts of violence within the context of the so-called peaceful protests. Oyarzun Uribe was arrested last Tuesday by Carabineros of the Rio Pescado Precinct while he was traveling with his mother in an international bus from Rio Gallegos, Argentina.

ARICA RESIDENTS REPORT CARABINERO VIOLENCE

PY032324 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 3 May 84

[Relay from Arica by correspondent Hector Merida]

[Text] Tarapaca University authorities and students have reported that uniformed Carabineros raided the dormitory of this university on the evening of 1 May. The students explained that the police forces, which acted without any provocation whatsoever, broke several windows.

The local Cabarineros' headquarters released a public communique merely stating that its personnel conducted operations in the area in order to control protest demonstrations in which students from the abovementioned dormitory had participated.

The university students held a demonstration yesterday at the (Saucache) campus during which they told a crowd of many hundreds of students about the unusual attitude of the Carabineros which they claimed are part of a vast plan to frighten students who may want to participate in antigovernment protests.

Meanwhile, residents of various neighborhoods reported similar incidents which, they stated, were carried out by uniformed Carabineros who raided several houses during the protests they were trying to curb on Tuesday evening. Housewives told this correspondent that many windows were broken.

During the 1 May protests, Carabineros arrested 17 persons on charges of intentionally damaging property and placed them at the disposal of the court.

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN SANTIAGO DESTROYED BY BOMB

PY031621 Paris AFP in Spanish 1432 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 3 May (AFP) -- A small Catholic church located on the outskirts of this city was today destroyed by incendiary bombs thrown inside the church by unknown persons, spokesmen for the archbishopric have reported. According to witnesses, three unidentified persons perpetrated the attack early this morning and then escaped in a car. The church, located in a popular neighborhood of southern Santiago, was completely destroyed by fire, the spokesmen said.

Thus far this year approximately 12 Catholic churches have been the target of shootings, molotov cocktails, and graffitti threats linking priests with political groups opposing the military regime of President Augusto Pinochet.

19 DETAINED DURING FUNERAL FOR 1 MAY CASUALTY

PY040127 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2356 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 3 May (EFE) -- The Chilean police today detained 19 persons during the funeral of Pedro Andres Mariqueo, 15, who was shot dead on 1 May. Radio Chilena has reported that special Carabinero forces went into action at 1600 to repress the people that were accompanying the coffin and as they entered the Catholic cemetery. Mariqueo's burial was carried out under the strict control of the uniformed police of General Augsto Pinochet's regime.

INTENTIONAL FIRES DESTROY FORESTS IN 5TH REGION

PY021400 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Nine [as heard] intentional forest fires have affected the 5th Region. The fires destroyed 3,000 square meters of pine and eucalyptus forests at Valparaiso and Vina del Mar.

One fire started in the Lomas Negras sector on highway No 68, which is part of the old Placilla sector belonging to Forest Properties Inc, and destroyed 1,000 square meters of a plantation of eucalyptus trees. The other fire broke out in the sector called Cementerio de Los Indios de Placilla, in Penuelas, in the (Las Cenizas) ranch. The fires, started after unidentified persons hurled Molotov cocktails, destroyed 2,000 square meters of a pine forest.

INCREASE NOTED IN LA ESCONDIDA COPPER DEPOSITS

PY040145 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Apr 84 p C 1

[Excerpts] Carabineros General Ruben Schindler, vice chairman of the Chilean Copper Commission, has reported that La Escondida mineral deposits in the second region are the source "of considerable copper reserves for Chile."

Gen Schindler made this remark to EL MERCURIO after reports from Melbourne, Australia, indicated that Broken Hill Proprietary Co pointed out that these deposits contain some 545 million metric tons of copper. Initial estimates disclosed at the beginning of 1983 had established the reserves at 328 million metric tons.

The Vice chairman of the Chilean Copper Commission said that Chile has between 25 and 30 percent of the copper reserves of the world. "Obviously, with the discovery of La Excondida, these reserves have grown considerably." He said that once the decision to start exploiting this deposit is made large foreign investments are expected. He also emphasized the significance of the undertaking as a source of new jobs.

PRESIDENT APPOINTS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PEACE

PA031632 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 27 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] President Betancur last night announced that Nicanor Restrepo Santamaria, a former Antioquia Department governor, has been appointed High Commissioner for Peace. The president made the announcement as he accepted the resignation of business leader Alfredo Carvajal Sinisterra, whose job he praised.

DRAGNET AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS STARTED

PA032100 Paris AFP in Spanish 0151 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Bogota, 2 May (AFP) -- The Colombian Government intends to wage an all-out battle against drug trafficking, and has started to hunt for well-known drug traffickers. The traffickers will be extradited to the United States, where they are currently being sought by several judges.

An hour after Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara was buried in Neiva, southern Colombia, government officials issued arrest warrants against 11 of the local drug trafficking leaders. Lara was murdered on Monday by hoodlums riding a vehicle, who were reportedly hired by drug traffickers. The list especially includes Carlos Lehder, a self-confessed drug trafficker who is now a fugitive; and Emiro de Jesus Mejia and Luca Van Grieken, recently released, against whom the supreme court issued a favorable ruling for extradition.

It is appropriate to note that Colombian President Belisario Betancur exerted his power and refused to hand over Mejia and Van Grieken to U.S. officials. He also delayed a decision regarding Lehder because he considers that the crimes were committed in Colombia and therefore must be tried here.

Nevertheless, Betancur announced during the eulogy at Lara's funeral that Colombian drug traffickers claimed by the United States will be extradited. Last year the United States requested the extradition of 18 Colombians charged with drug trafficking and "laundering dollars" in that country. In compliance with the treaty, security organizations today started the search for, in addition to the three mentioned traffickers, Carolos Alvarez, Marleny Navarro, Jairo Ramirez, Armando Tejada, Mario Ochoa, Alvaro Barcenas, Antonio Jose Uribe, and Carmenza Valenzuela -- who is known as the "queen of coke" in the United States.

PROFESSIONALS LAUD EXTRADITION DECISION

PA031954 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Bogota -- Several of the country's professional organizations have praised President Belisario Betancur's announcement that drug traffickers who are being sought by other countries will be extradited. According to Juan Martin Caicedo Ferrer, director of FENALCO [National Federation of Businessmen], the war begun by Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla against the drug traffickers must continue. ANIF [National Association of Financial Institutions] and other organizations have also expressed satisfaction with the government's announcement, declaring that the state of siege should have been implemented sooner, as it is needed to secure national peace.

PARTIES BEGIN STUDY OF NEW POLITICAL PLAN

PY030347 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0949 GMT 2 May 84

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 2 May (EFE) -- Today Uruguayan political parties are beginning to study a military plan proposing a constituent assembly and more flexible rules for the democratization of the country in the upcoming November elections.

The plan, described as "a draft proposal for agreement," indicates that the military regime has more moderate aspirations, avoiding the imposition of authoritarian rules on the future democratic government. However, some parties have said that the regime has "unacceptable" aspirations.

On Labor Day the commanders of the Uruguayan Armed Forces unexpectedly summoned the leaders of the three political parties (Blanco, Colorado, and Civic Union Parties) to give them a document with the new political plan.

The Armed Forces document seeks the approval of regulations on sensitive institutional issues, not through a constitution but through resolutions of the future democratic government.

The plan includes the election of a constituent assembly which will be called after the November elections and in which a dozen representatives of the regime "will have a voice but no vote." This is where the country's institutional future will be discussed but with a government elected by the people and governing through temporary measures of Congress, which will have the power to approve basic laws with two-thirds of the votes.

The plan, believed to be "much more flexible," will allow politicians to return to the negotiations with the military regime that were interrupted last July.

The military government reiterated that the 25 November elections will be held, but at the same time it said that it will be inflexible on the proscription of the leader in exile Wilson Ferreira Aldunate and the recently released leader Liber Seregni. However, once an agreement is reached the government will rehabilitate the Christian Democratic Party, the Socialist Party, and the dissident Colorado Party group of the assassinated political leader Zelmar Michelini. The military regime also confirmed that it will not allow the reorganization of the Communist Party.

The rehabilitation of these parties will facilitate the legalization of the leftist Broad Front headed by Liber Seregni.

Politicians of the Colorado and Civic Union Parties told EFE that the new military proposal is positive because it allows the "resumption of dialogue and the unblocking of political stagnation."

Leaders of the Blanco Party rejected the new proposal, demanding Ferreira Aldunate's rehabilitation. These leaders are going to continue getting signatures for a plebiscite to abolish the measures of the "de facto" government but the Armed Forces are not likely to authorize a plebiscite.

Those who accept the return to the negotiations with the military regime recognize that there are still many issues which will require hard discussions. However, they agree on the importance of the moderate manner in which the Armed Forces called on the parties and the regime's willingness to leave to a future elected government the solution of basic disagreements.

PN To Petition for Plebiscite

PY031928 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpt] It has been confirmed that the National Party [PN] is going to carry out a campaign to get signatures calling for a plebiscite and that it will have the support of the Social Democratic Party. The campaign will begin next Sunday.

It has also been reported that the PN plans to give an answer to the commanders of the Armed Forces on the military proposal submitted to the political parties. The minority group of this party believes that the PN will negotiate with the military regime after 26 May.

The PN campaign to get signatures calling for a plebiscite will begin in the entire country nex Sunday. It was officially reported at noon today that various groups will go from house to house in the 19 departments to get the signatures and that special facilitie ities will be made available to carry out the campaign. The campaign will be carried out under the title: "For a Uruguay Made by All and For All, for Freedom, Amnesty, and Peace.'

PN Minority Supports Dialogue

PY032310 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpt] Pablo Garcia Pintos, member of the board of the minority group of the National Party [PN], told El Espectador at noon today that after 26 May the PN will have no choice but to negotiate with military officials. Regarding the new political plan proposed by the commanders of the Armed Forces, he said:

[Begin Garcia recording] The majority group of the PN decided in Buenos Aires to sponsor a plebiscite to emerge from the current situation. The call for a plebiscite represents a great mobilization or the possibility of a great mobilization which could end up in a violent confrontation. This is a de facto government which is not going to be put in a corner by a plebiscite. A few days after the decision made by the PN calling for a plebiscite, the Armed Forces announced a new political plan, a plan we are all studying in detail.

The plan has two favorable points. First, the Armed Forces chose the road of negotiations and not violence. In other words, in answer to the plebiscite the Armed Forces could have reacted by approving a constitutional act or deciding to stay in the government another 2 years. They wisely decided to negotiate. This is the first positive aspect of this political plan.

The second favorable point of the plan is the confirmation that the elections will be held on 25 November. These two points are positive. [end recording]

Government Communique on Plan

PY040147 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 May 84

["Text" of communique issued by the Uruguayan Government and Armed Forces on 3 May]

[Text] The government and the Armed Forces deem it necessary to warn the people so that they should not be deceived, that according to highly reliable sources a destabilization plan has been designed for immediate implementation in Uruguay.

According to available information, the plan may begin with the attempt to call for a plebiscite for the abolishment of institutional acts, the enactment of amnesty, and the release of prisoners sentenced on charges of having committed terrorist crimes.

The plan also foresees agitation within labor sectors, giving rise to stoppages and strikes, particularly in the banking and health sectors and among students. Violence will be promoted in order to elicit strong repressive measures. Under such conditions, Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, who is wanted by the courts, may come to Uruguay with the economic and personal support of foreign politicians, facing the certain risk of being imprisoned in view of the case brought against him by military courts.

According to available information, the designers of the plan believe that a situation of total chaos and disorder prevailing at that moment will become even worse with the radicalization of attitudes that will follow the arrest of Aldunate. This may force an interruption of the institutionalization process and a delay of the elections planned for November, in which Aldunate will not participate.

The plan was designed in Buenos Aires by several Blanco Party leaders, by Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, and by some members of the so-called Democratic Convergence, who are also wanted by the courts.

In view of this situation, the government and the Armed Forces hereby reiterate:

1. That they are determined to call for general elections on the last Sunday of November 1984;

2. That the alleged plebiscite is not feasible and that it will not be authorized because it is not possible to invoke the Constitution to abolish acts and nullify government actions which are not foreseen by the Constitution itself. Therefore, the gathering of signatures for that purpose will be useless;

3. That they are determined to arrest and hand over to the courts any person wanted for having committed any crime if that person is in the country or if he returns from abroad.

FERREIRA ALDUNATE ON OPPOSITION UNITY, ELECTIONS

PY030407 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 28 Apr 84 p 20

[PRESSUR press agency interview with opposition leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate in Buenos Aires by an unidentified reporter -- date not given]

[Text] [Reporter] Is there an agreement between political parties and Uruguayan social forces on what steps to take for the democratization of the country?

[Aldunate] There are some people who believe that because the military regime has set 25 November as the date for the elections, no measures should be taken that might jeopardize the holding of elections on that date. However, the only way to get rid of the Uruguayan dictatorship is for popular mobilization to continue creating insoluble problems for the system.

[Reporter] For example, are current disagreements in contradiction with the union rally organized for Labor Day in Montevideo, a rally which has been announced as a very large mobilization aimed at promoting unity?

[Aldunate] It is going to be a great mobilization. I strongly wish to see a large Labor Day celebration mobilizing the people. However, I believe there are some things which are not working well. There was an unfortunate controversy among the traditional parties which damaged the unity of the opposition. But it is not good to open old wounds we have to look ahead to see what we can do together in the future.

[Reporter] Why is the unity of opposition parties necessary and what concrete problems of unity are these parties confronting?

[Aldunate] Unity is absolutely necessary. We cannot get rid of the dictatorship without it. We need unity before and after the electoral process because during this process we hope to establish the environment of discussions and confrontation of ideas. Unity is required to force the regime to give the people the possibility of expressing themselves freely and to make the country governable. The problems begin when after talking about unity and its importance, people forget its meaning, thus making unity an end in itself. This is when the goals of unity are left behind. If everything has to be resolved by the consensus of all the political forces, the only things which will be achieved will be the things wanted by the party which is willing to make the least effort.

[Reporter] Unless those who are willing to do more are stronger.

[Aldunate] I believe that is true and this is where our strategy lies. But there is another thing: We all absolutely agree on goals. No one in Uruguay except President Gregorio Alvarez supports proscriptions on political parties or politicians. The issue is not to know whether one is for or against proscriptions but if one is willing to fight to eliminate it. We want a strong unity but only with those who want to restore democracy in the country.

[Reporter] Who are those with whom your party could not reach an agreement?

[Aldunate] There are people who believe the president of the Central Bank should be engineer Vegh-Villegas, who advocates a strict monetary policy in Uruguay. This is why agreement also involves ideological commitments, not consensus; therefore an agreement on compatible basic guidelines is necessary.

[Reporter] How are your party and the opposition going to face the immediate problems, taking into account that you are still proscribed, the Broad Front is illegal, and the elections are approaching?

[Aldunate] I believe the issue of my proscription was deliberately distorted. We ended up changing the entire Uruguayan drama in a discussion which goes more or less like this: Is it worth compromising the possibility of democratizing the country by the desire to have the rights of a citizen or party respected? It has been said that neither Ferreira nor the National Party can "take the Republic hostage for their personal aspirations."

[Reporter] This means that according to this statement -- which is not true -- all that is missing to hold free elections is that the ban against you be lifted?

[Aldunate] Exactly. The problem is distorted by a belief that the ban on men and political parties is the only obstacle to liberty prevailing in Uruguay. This would be very serious. People are also forgetting that the military apparatus is loudly announcing officially that there are other "non-negotiable" issues.

[Reporter] The military leaders announced that after Labor Day they will deliver to the political parties a new plan to resume negotiations. It has also been learned that the plan has five "non-negotiable" points. What does this "package" include?

[Aldunate] Everything which will eventually be negotiated. Before beginning the negotiations, before it was known that negotiations were possible, they said: Here is a package in which nothing is negotiable. It included the proscription on political parties and individuals -- the only aspect publicly discussed -- unacceptable restrictions on individual freedom, curtailment of all guarantees, and habeas corpus for periods during which not even the executive branch could abolish them.

According to this plan the Armed Forces will become a state within the state because the civilian government will not have the power to appoint military commanders, make transfers, or grant promotions. The president will not be the commander in chief and will not even offer an opinion on military appointments. The non-negotiable items also include the National Security Council which will be above the government on all matters of security.

[Reporter] On what grounds, with what instruments is this plan going to be regarded? Your party proposed a few days ago calling a plebiscite for the annulment of the institutional acts but this proposal was not well received among opposition forces.

[Aldunate] When my party proposes a referendum it is also willing to accept any other proposal either from the Broad Front, the Colorado Party, or the Civic Union. We need instruments to mobilize the people, any formula ensuring the return of the 1967 constitutional regime. These instruments must reappear and if negotiations are eventually carried out, the negotiations will have behind them the force and authority of the people's will.

[Reporter] But the people are not being mobilized.

[Aldunate] The people who meet on the streets convey very clear messages to those seeking information. This is what I hope, and today I have a special hope concerning the results of the Labor Day celebration. Political leaders have the obligation to use their imagination, to chose the approprate time to throw "trial balloons" on the table.

[Reporter] Is there still time to throw "trial balloons?"

[Aldunate] They may not be simply trial balloons. Political life is a permanent struggle. It should never be said that it is too late; it is never too late.

[Reporter] But some times the opposition's answer is delayed. In the last few days there were very serious incidents: attacks, death threats, press closures, the death of Vladimir Roslik perhaps from torture...

[Aldunate] The only problems prevailing in Uruguay are at the leadership level. The people, no matter what sector they belong to, have no doubt about what they want and the path they have to follow to achieve it. The people must mobilize themselves, they must be out on the streets. We do not accept the idea that by clearly defining our position we cut ourselves off from participating in dialogue. The generals are repeating every day the specific limits of dialogue and this is so restricted that it is the equivalent of saying that no dialogue is possible.

[Reporter] Not all the opposition forces will reject the dialogue.

[Aldunate] It would be tragic if they do not. We have the civic duty to say that no one should speculate wrongly, that no one should make the tragic mistake of believing that some kind of agreement can be reached with a military regime which is desperately trying to hold elections without paying attention to the real political situation prevailing in the country. We already said no to any constitutional reform and this rejection does not come from parties alone but from the entire nation.

My party proclaimed my candidacy in an election held under the supervision of the government and I was chosen by 387 votes in favor and 15 against. I accepted it with emotion, overwhelmed by the honor and the responsibility bestowed on me. However, we who are members of the National Party have the right -- among other rights obtained throughout history -- to sometimes disobey our party. If the military regime tells me: We are going to enforce all rights; we are going to eliminate civilians being judged in military courts; we are going to make sure that the president will be the commander in chief; we are going to allow all ideologies, parties, and people to participate in the elections -- all that if I refrain from being a candidate, this would be for me a very small price to pay. In exchange for that would I give up my candidacy. I would resign it now, but only in exchange for those conditions.

BUSQUEDA MAGAZINE PUBLISHER DISCUSSES CLOSURE

PY030156 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 28 Apr 84 p 3

[Telephone interview with Danilo Arbilla, publisher of Montevideo's BUSQUEDA magazine and vice president of the Press Freedom Committee of the Inter-American Press Society, SIP, by an unidentified reporter on 27 April; place not given]

[Text] [Reporter] Are you the publisher or the director?

[Arbilla] I am the publisher.

[Reporter] How long has BUSQUEDA magazine been in existence?

[Arbilla] As a weekly, it has been in existence for 3 years. Before that it was published for 10 years as a monthly magazine.

[Reporter] How many times did the government sanction the magazine?

[Arbilla] Five times since 1976.

[Reporter] What was the most serious or strongest sanction?

[Arbilla] The last one, beyond all doubt. They closed us for 8 issues.

[Reporter] What is your opinion of the government's decision?

[Arbilla] The most regrettable thing is that the government began an escalation in the last few weeks, just as freedom of information seemed to be gaining ground and as the government seemed to be relaxing the existing restrictions. Five publications were closed, beginning with LA PRENSA of Salto. The Montevideo newspaper CINCO DIAS and TRIBUNA AMPLIA magazine, which has just published its first issue, were closed. LA PRENSA was closed for 90 days, CINCO DIAS and TRIBUNA AMPLIA were closed indefinitely. The same thing happened to SOMOS IDEA, magazine of the Blanco Party majority faction. And as I told you, BUSQUEDA was closed for 8 weeks.

[Reporter] How do you explain this action of the government?

[Arbilla] The government has been evidently suffering from anxiety. Two months ago the interior minister told weekly directors of the intention of beginning a broader opening. But the government apparently wants to permanently establish the limits of that opening, namely, the good and the bad that the press should report, and the kind of information Uruguayans should or should not be allowed to read. In the case of BUSQUEDA, the closure is arbitrary. In fact, it was ordered because of several articles that were taken from other sources.

[Reporter] Uruguayan sources?

[Arbilla] Yes. The other articles, covering mainly the activities of Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, were also taken from other reports which had not been previously sanctioned. I am not asking that sanctions be made against the media that published such reports, but I want to stress the arbitrary nature of the decision made by the government, which seems determined to silence a given sector of the press. On the other hand, the sector that supports Ferreira Aldunate and his political group, who are involved in an old conflict, and on the other BUSQUEDA, an absolutely independent magazine which has no links whatsoever with either parties or economic so social groups. Its only purpose is to inform the public. That is the object of the government's concern. It has been the object of the government's concern for several years. The truth is that the restrictions that the government has imposed because of a report released to the public have always been stronger than those imposed because of an opinion, although opinions are also punished. In sum, rather than sanctioning the media, the government has punished Uruguayans. Any impartial observer can realize that the objective of BUSQUEDA is to convey information from all areas. Three or 4 weeks ago, before Holy Week, our magazine ended a special series of reports on missing Uruguayans in Argentina with links in Uruguay. This must have annoyed the government. There was also the SIP report approved in Jamaica, where I had to report on the situation in Uruguay. There are several elements that lead to the conclusion that the government had a predisposition against BUSQUEDA.

[Reporter] Were you in Jamaica recently?

[Arbilla] I was. As I told you, I had to submit a report in my capacity as Uruguayan vice president of the Press Freedom Committee.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON LATEST CONTADORA MEETING

PA031342 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 2 May 84

[By reporter Luis Alfredo Gomez]

[Text] Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul, who returned to Venezuela last night, today said that in fact some countries do not have faith in the Contadora Group, but that no obstacle is strong enough to hamper peace efforts.

Isidro Morales Paul today gave a press conference in his office in which he commented on the scope and conclusions reached during the last meeting of the Contadora Group's foreign ministers with their Central American counterparts.

[Begin recording] [Morales] The Contadora Group meeting that has just closed represents a new phase [passage indistinct]. The Group analyzed the work done by the political, security, economic, and social committees. It is important to point out that the nine countries reached a consensus on a number of fundamental issues. For example, in the political affairs committee, documents on national reconciliation, human rights, the electoral process, and regional detente were agreed upon.

I believe that these documents represent an important contribution to Latin American political law. The document on regional detente is very explicit on the execution of the Document of Objectives and its 21 points. I believe that this document opens paths to advance the Contadora Group effort that must culminate in a subregional draft treaty.

[Gomez] Mr Foreign Minister, this document, nevertheless, points out that differences on the withdrawal of foreign advisers from the region still persists.

[Morales] It is true that there are a few differences on the procedures to be followed for the withdrawal, but I agree on the need for that withdrawal. However, at least a greater agreement between the sides on this issue has been evident. [end recording]

BRIEFS

OFFICIALS SWORN IN -- Venzuelan President Jaime Lusinchi has installed Edilberto Moreno Pena as the Venezuelan ambassador to the OAS, Jose Francisco Sucre Figarella as the Venezuelan ambassador to the United Nations, and Dr Arnaldo Morales as acting environment and natural resources minister during Minister Orlando Castejon's absence from the country. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 14 Apr 84 p 1-13 PA]

OIL PRODUCTION FIGURES -- LAGOVEN, a subsidiary of Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc., produced an average of 774,000 barrels a day during 1983, which was 42 percent of the country's oil production during this period, according to the company's annual report. LAGOVEN also produced 2,400 barrels a day of condensed [condensado] and 28,800 barrels a day of liquified gas. [Excerpts] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 21 Apr 84 p D-5 PA]

GUATEMALAN ENVOY DENIES ARMY INCURSIONS

FL032126 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1908 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Mexico City, 3 May (NOTIMEX) -- Guatemalan Ambassador to Mexico Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro has denied that his country's regular forces have made incursions into Mexican territory, and he has blamed the aggression on Guatemalan refugees and subversives.

He said that the people used army uniforms in an attempt to provoke a border clash, and he admitted that events like these make relations between Mexico and Guatemala more tense than they have been. He said: For that reason, a large-scale investigation is being carried out in my country to present evidence that the Armed Forces never crossed the Mexican border.

Enrique Garcia Chacon, the agent of the People's Ministry in Comitan, Chiapas, reported that several of the Guatemalan refugees who have made statements on the deaths of six of their compatriots in last Monday's events, agreed that the attackers were 25 Guatemalan soldiers.

In addition, sources from the Mexican Commission for Aid to Refugees [Comision Mexicana de Ayuda a Refugiados] (COMAR) and church officials have said that El Chupadero Camp has been partially deserted since the refugees who were there fled to the jungle or nearly towns.

According to information from the UN High Commission for Refugecs (UNHCR), cited by press correspondents, the political situation that has thrown Guatemala into a state of confusion has caused about 100,000 people to become refugees, 80 percent of whom are in Chiapas, Mexico.

The correspondents' reports stated that most of the refugees are living in 86 camps near the border. Anxiety has become widespread there out of fear of more attacks by Guatemalan soldiers.

UNHCR officials have refused to comment on the attacks, but they have pointed out that the organization's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, has already been informed of the events.

The attorney general of the State of Chiapas, Eugenio Nercia Mendoza, has indicated that it is the duty of his office to investigate the events and deal with those responsible, but he pointed out that for the moment, it is not possible to determine whether the killers were members of the Guatemalan Army or, as rumors have it, subversives of the neighboring country.

GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE FOR REFUGEES

FL032356 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2315 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Chihuahua, 3 May (NOTIMEX) -- More than 46,000 Guatemalan Indians who are in refugee camps along the Guatemalan border will receive medical care from the federal government, which will pay more than 142 million pesos (over $784,000) for it.

The director general of public health from the Secretariat of Health and Public Assistance Raul Carrillo Silva, who is presiding over the first meeting on the decentralization of health services, which is being held in this city, made the statement in reference to the health situation in that region.

The official explained that during the next 8 months, the Guatemalan Indians would receive free food and health education at 12 clinics that will be established.

He said that the Ixchiles, Coechis, Topolobales, and Canonjabales Tribes will receive health care, housing, and food from the government.

He also said that beginning this month, medical assistance and disease control programs will begin to operate for the Guatelmalan refugees. These programs were authorized by the Chiapas Plan, which was started at the beginning of Miguel de la Madrid's administration in December 1982.

Carrillo Silva said that the Guatemalan refugees are finding peace in Mexico after their self-exile because of the violence in their native land.

ARIAS SUGGESTS DIALOGUE WITH DEFENSE FORCES

PA031711 Panama City YA in Spanish 2 May 84 pp 24, 22

["Text" of letter from Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid, presidential candidate of the Democratic Opposition Alliance, ADO, to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Defense Forces in Panama City; dated 30 April 1984]

[Text] The ADO has suggested the need for a cordial and honorable dialogue between its members and the National Defense Forces General Staff, for the sole purpose of looking at the future dispassionately and guaranteeing the country's tranquillity during this electoral process, which represents a vital stage in our historic development.

This suggestion reflects our stand that the National Defense Forces are an important institution within the country's governmental machinery and that, as such, they must also help dispel uncertainties by taking the place that justly belongs to them. We have never concealed but have openly proclaimed our belief that at present, the Defense Forces do not occupy that just place, since in the last 16 years your General Staff has monopolized all public powers.

We maintain that, for the sake of the country's well-being and future, the National Defense Forces must be dependent on the authorities legitimately elected by the people, as the Constitution establishes. We also maintain that Law 20 of 1984 must be amended so that our armed forces can act as an agent of the authorities and so that their stability can be guaranteed in accordance with the military roster in order to achieve their due professionalization. We believe that this is the right time to formally reiterate -- as we, in effect, are hereby doing -- our invitation to hold a dialogue in a climate of mutual respect among you, your General Staff officers, and our leaders. Should you share our view that such a dialogue is necessary, we are ready to discuss with your representatives the details needed to hold it.

Sincerely,

Dr Arnulfo Arias

Criticized for Proposal

PA031531 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 May 84

[Station commentary read by newsman Arquimedes Fernandez]

[Text] On the inappropriate advice from his obedient advisers, Arnulfo Arias has sent a letter to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Defense Forces, in which the parties that make up the so-called Democratic Oppostion Alliance request a dialogue with the Defense Forces General Staff to discuss electoral affairs, which is a vital stage in our historic development, as the letter states. Because it is untimely and contradictory, this letter has surprised the Panamanian people. It is untimely because Arnulfo Arias has been invited repeatedly to dialogue with the other presidential candidates, and especially with Nicolas Ardito Barletta, candidate of the National Democratic Union, which Dr Arias has declined on my occasions without giving the people a valid reason for his inexplicable refusal.

The letter is contradictory for an essential reason, because the armed services, to which Arias now refers in an apparently respectful manner, is the same organization that Arias offended publicly by linking it to the worldwide narcotics traffic and irresponsibly ignoring the lofty and worthy credibility that our country in general and Manuel Antonio Noriega personally have achieved at international meetings through the hard work that they have duly demonstrated against the criminal narcotics traffic.

Now, in a slip of irresponsible amnesia, Dr Arias has appealed to the good offices of the same services that he recently libeled by using in his request words such as law and constitution, for which he had little respect during his previous terms as president of Panama.

The letter is also contradictory because the Defense Forces are the same ones from whom the opposition is repeatedly demanding the most complete abstinence from political affairs. The request is very suspicious and smells of a trick dialogue to discuss with the General Staff matters concerning the elections and the political parties -- especially because the request was made by the same candidate, Dr Arnulfo Arias, the only one who refused to participate in the dialogue that General Noriega requested from all the candidates of all the parties. The only ones absent were Arias and his party. We believe that not even the question of order could be cause or reason for the dialogue that Arias is now proposing, since the voters are observing the prudence, maturity, and emotional stability that has brought so much credit to Panama as a country that is relying exclusively on a respectful examination of reasons over and above the motives and effects of violent action.

Therefore, there is no longer any reason for a dialogue between the Defense Forces and the political parties that are disputing the preference of the people in the coming elections. The elections will be held over the predictions to the contrary made by the opposition. They will be held in the fulfillment of the popular will promised by General Omar Torrijos Herrera for the year of 1984. They will be held next Sunday and, God willing, they will not be prevented by those who with deception are trying to talk with those whom they should not, while refusing to do so with those whom they can and should, unless they fear a public debate that can still be held. There is still time for the Panamanian voters to see and hear a historic encounter between the two forces on a television network between the forces that attempt to return us to the negative, vengeful, and retrograde past and the vigorous activity of the other force, that of positive change personified in Nicolas Ardito Barletta, authorized spokesman of the Panamanian youth who has respect, who looks to the future with an optimism that has an eternal spark of hope, work, welfare, and peace.

Defense Forces Reject Dialogue

PA040345 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2325 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The General Staff of the National Defense Forces of Panama held a news conference a few minutes ago to announce the reply of that armed institution to the letter received from the opposition alliance in regard to a dialogue. The following is a phone relay account by Demetrio Olaciregui:

[Begin relay] The General Staff of the National Defense Forces of Panama has answered the letter received from the candidate of the Democratic Opposition Alliance, Arnulfo Arias, in which he requested a dialogue with the Panamanian military high command. In its reply, the General Staff declined the dialogue at present, considering that the priority at this time should be the satisfactory conclusion of the electoral campaign, allowing Panamaniams to cast their ballots freeling and for an honest vote count. In the interest of the nation's public opinion and because of the commitment of this radio station to its listeners throughout the country, we will read the full text of the General Command's letter:

Dr Arnulfo Arias, presidential candidate of the Democratic Opposition Alliance,

Mr Candidate: We acknowledge receipt of your public letter dated 10 April 1984, which we are answering as follows:

The National Defense Forces have reiterated their intention to contribute in every possible way to guaranteeing a calm, honest, and efficient electoral process for the benefit of all Panamanian social and political sectors, free of the injustices and coercion committed in nearly all electoral events prior to 11 October 1968. The National Defense Forces have also reiterated the decision that the nation's political and institutional life should be stably and permanently democratized, for which these elections constitute a significant advance, and we have made it an unwavering doctrinary principle.

It is because of this democratic and constitutionalist vision of the Defense Forces that we have reproached attempts by some politicians to return to the ignoble practices of the past, marked by insults, slander, and provocation, to the point of threatening the Defense Forces and their chiefs, even trying to divide the deep-rooted bonds existing between the Panamanian people and the Armed Forces.

They have even irresponsibly tried to alter the structure of the institution, the stability of its commands, the respect for its officers, classes, and ranks, and what to the men in uniform constitutes the nerve center of their administrative functioning, such as absolute respect for the military echelon.

To all the above, the Defense Forces responded with an insistent appeal for peace, harmony, and the coexistence of all Panamanians so that we may be delivered from the horrors affecting our sister nations, practically bordering ours. This appeal for peace is in no way a sign of weakness on the part of our institution as to compliance with its duties. On the contrary, it is the full expression of our certainty that in the case of any destabilizing attempt we shall act with energy and serenity, without hesitation, adjusting our actions to the duties and rights of our institution as established by the Constitution of the Republic of Panama and Law 20 of 1983.

As to the dialogue you request, Dr Arias, we decline it at this time because we believe that the priority at this time should be the security of the electoral campaign so that it may be satisfactorily concluded, with the Panamanians casting their ballots freely and the votes being honestly counted.

With our best wishes for peace, all for the fatherland!

[Signed] General Manuel A. Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces of Panama; Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera, chief of the General Staff of the Defense Forces; Colonel Marcos Justines, deputy chief and G-4 of the chief of the General Staff of the Defense Forces; Colonel Angel Mina Justiniani, transit and land transportation director; Lieutenant Colonel Leonidas Macias, G-1 of the chief of the General Staff; Lieutenant Colonel Julio Ow Young, G-2 of the chief of the General Staff of the Defense Forces; Lieutenant Colonel Elias Castillo, G-3 of the chief of the General Staff of the Defense Forces; Lieutenant Colonel Alberto Purcell, G-5 of the chief of the General Staff of the Defense Forces; Lieutenant Colonel Lorenzo Purcell, Panamanian Air Force commander; Lieutenant Colonel Eros Ramiro Cal, Police Force commander; Lieutenant Colonel Eugenio Corro, military zones inspector; Lieutenant Colonel Ricardo Garibaldo, deputy director of the School of the Americas; Lieutenant Colonel Bernardo Barrera, chief of the Defense and Security Commission; and Lieutenant Colonel Julian Melo, secretary general of the Commanding Office and of the chief of the General Staff. [end relay]

COSTA RICA

MONGE ADDRESSES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ON ECONOMY

PA031615 San Jose Domestic Service in Spanish 2122 GMT 1 May 84

[Address by President Luis Alberto Monge to the Legislative Assembly in San Jose on 1 May -- live]

[Excerpts] I am here to comply with my constitutional duty to render accounts to the Legislative Assembly regarding my government activities during the period of May 1983-May 1984. This is the second year of my mandate, which was freely entrusted to me by the people through their votes.

When I assumed the presidency, the 1982 estimated deficit for the central government and its institutions was 12 billion colones, which represented 12 percent of the GNP. I am pleased to report to the Legislative Assembly that the 1983 fiscal deficit was 1.8 billion colones, well below our estimates and those of the IMF. It was estimated in May 1982 that inflation, which is reflected in prices to consumers, would reach 120 percent or more in December 1982.

By the end of 1983, the inflation rate was 11 percent, which is compatible with international indexes and well below the terms set with the IMF.

In contrast with the 1970-1978 period, when Costa Rica had one of the highest indexes of growth and economic development in Latin America, there has been a violent reduction in the production apparatus and national reserves. In a few months, we plunged to a growth level of zero, and then a drastic drop of minus 9 percent in the 1982 GNP, as compared to 1981.

We then undertook as a priority obligation to reverse this trend and to overcome a 10-year regression in the Costa Ricans' standard of living. Our 1983 goal within the context of economic stabilization policies, a zero percent growth, was considered as a hope and a gradual return to levels achieved prior to the 1978-1982 period, when the country plunged into the abyss of a crisis.

I am pleased to report to the Legislative Assembly that not only have we achieved that difficult economic goal, but for the first time in many years Costa Rica had positive growth in 1983. Thus, the country could come out of a hole of minus 9 percent to a horizon of hope for 1-percent real growth.

During this period, due to an unprecedented technical and political effort by Costa Rica, we concluded the renegotiation of our foreign debt. I can report to the Legislative Assembly that, as of April 1984, Costa Rica has paid $832,900,000 to its creditors; this represents $185,200,000 in amortization and $647,700,000 in interest. The country has been able to pay debts which have been pending since 1981. No other Latin American country has been able to achieve such satisfactory goals within the framework of national stabilization, the start of its economic recovery, and the refinancing of its foreign debt; this is recognized in all international forums.

All these efforts in the internal and external sector are fully identified with our firm and absolute determination to keep Costa Rica out of the military conflicts affecting other states, particularly in Central America. When I proclaimed this policy on 17 November 1983, I said: Costa Rica is against war. Costa Ricans are against violence as the means to overcome political differences. In the past, it was believed that war was the last rationality in politics, but Costa Ricans believe that the war is the last irrationality, the failure of every policy. Our current Central American experience reaffirms this conviction. A policy of peace is an imperative need at this time. All foreign and security policies must serve this stand.

A policy of peace is the real and only policy for our times. Costa Rica is struggling for peace and fighting against war, because it daily exerts itself to achieve the ideals of Western civilization.

Messrs Deputies, I solemnly ratify these concepts and the complete text of the 17 November 1983 presidential decree before you and on the occasion of presenting this report. I do so with the certainty of my deepest personal and historical conviction. I know that most Costa Ricans advocate the government's peace policy and neutrality. His Holiness Pope John Paul II and many heads of state in our continent, Europe, Asia, and other distant regions have likewise offered their encouragement. Few, very few people in our country favor a senseless war. The vast majority of the Costa Ricans know that our strength lies in being what we are and not straying one millimeter from these essential convictions which have brought peace, liberty, and democracy to Costa Rica.

SANDINIST TROOPS REPORTEDLY ATTACK BORDER POST

PA031924 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The Sandinist Army again attacked our country today. On this occasion, the attack was on the Penas Blancas border post, and took place between 0930 and 1000, according to Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon. Solano Calderon said that soldiers from the Sandinist People's Army fired on Costa Rican territory for unknown reasons, prompting the Civil Guard to repel the attack.

We confirmed this report with Major Juan Rafael Guevara Araya, member of the Civil Guard northern command in Penas Blancas. Guevara Araya said:

[Begin recording] [Guevara] Unfortunately, the report is true.

[Unidentified reporter] Could you give us some details regarding the events this morning?

[Cuevara] Look, I cannot give you specific information because the reinforcement patrol that I sent there has not yet returned. What I can say is that there is no reason for concern because the incident was only a temporary affair, and it is over now. Right now there is calm and tranquillity. [end recording]

Maj Guevara said that in keeping with the government's instructions, a volley of shots was fired to show the Sandinists that the Costa Rican authorities are determined to defend the country's sovereignty.

Public Security Ministry sources reported that the border posts have been reinforced, and that a security cordon has been set up around the Penas Blancas immigration post to prevent new Sandinist attacks.

This newscast also contacted Colonel Oscar Vidal, director of the Civil Guard, who said:

[Begin Vidal recording -- in progress] ...and the use of heavy caliber weapons. Thirty minutes later we received another report that (?howitzers) had been used in the clashes and the shots had hit Costa Rican territory. We informed the minister and he ordered us to place the Civil Police on alert and to order [words indistinct] and to repeal any attack, whatever its origin. So the Guard Police have been repelling these attacks with the weapons at hand.

Unfortunately, we have lost contact with Penas Blancas and do not know if the clashes are continuing or if more shots are being fired. We are doing everything possible to restore communications to try to determine the scope of this incident, but I can say that the Civil Police have been responding to fire and I have ordered a platoon with heavy artillery as reinforcements [passage indistinct] to check any aggression from Nicaraguan territory. [end recording]

Colonel Vidal added that the communications lines with Penas Blancas are down, and that therefore no further details are available. He said that they are waiting for more information regarding the incidents on the border with Nicaragua.

Further Details

PA031850 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1819 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] We will now expand on the serious incident that occurred at approximately 1000 at the Penas Blancas border post. The Costa Rican Civil Guard repelled an armed attack using heavy weapons, which started a clash between the Costa Rican soldiers and the Sandinist forces. Fortunately, the clash did not result in any deaths.

A group of students almost died in the incident when the Sandinists fired indiscriminately at Costa Rican territory. Fortunately for us, there was a group of Red Cross members under the command of Major Guillermo (?Arroyo) who authorized the evacuation of a group of children returning from school who were caught in the crossfire. Fortunately, none of them was killed.

In view of this morning's serious incident in which Costa Rican authorities repelled a Sandinist attack in Penas Blancas, according to Major Milton Cheverri of the Emergency Directorate [Direction de Socorros], the Red Cross has decided to maintain a general alert in the area of Guanacaste. If incidents continue, personnel will be maintained in Liberia to attend to any unexpected situation. In addition, other actions are being coordinated with Major Guillermo Royo, Edgardo Acosta, and Alberto Lee, who are currently at the Red Cross post close to Penas Blancas.

[Panama City ACAN in Spanish at 1814 GMT on 3 May reports from San Jose that "this is the first time that the border guard has had to defend itself with arms against an armed attack."]

NEGOTIATIONS FOR BORDER DEFENSE WEAPONS UNDER WAY

PA031338 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Negotiations are under way to obtain weapons for our defense along the northern border. The situation is very delicate, but we are not yet considering a break in diplomatic relations with Nicaragua, said the second vice president of the Republic and coordinator of the National Security Council, Armando Arauz Aguilar.

[Begin recording] [Arauz Aguilar] I do not believe that at this time the government is considering breaking relations, although relations with Nicaragua are at a very critical point.

[Unidentified reporter] Just what are Costa Rica's fears with regard to this crisis?

[Arauz Aguilar] The possibility of an increasingly critical confrontation on the border. That is why we are adopting every possible measure in case this should take place. [end recording]

Council Approves Plan

PA032045 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The Government Council met yesterday and approved the Security Council resolutions adopted as a result of the latest Sandinist attacks on Costa Rican territory. Presidency Minister Fernando Berrocal said that although the country will not be militarized, we have to give large-caliber, long-range weapons to the Civil and Rural Guards to respond to the Sandinist attacks.

The Government Council analyzed the necessity of improving national security to fully comply with the neutrality proclamation. It also discussed the speech delivered by Monge on 1 May at the Legislative Assembly. In addition, the Council analyzed a Security Council report regarding the Sandinist Air Force attack on the border town of Pocosol last Sunday.

The government believes all ministers should have access to Security Council information so they can become fully involved with defense related decisions, said Berrocal.

EL SALVADOR

CCE MEMBER DENIES CHARGES AGAINST PICKERING

PA040118 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 May 84

[Raul Beltran report]

[Text] An ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] spokesman learned yesterday about a 1 May request from ultrarightist U.S. Senator Jesse Helms to U.S. President Ronald Reagan asking for the removal or transfer of U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Thomas Pickering for trying to interfere in matters that concern only the Central Electoral Council [CCE]. The members of the council addressed the matter at noon today, particularly engineer Roberto Meza Delgado, who referred to the ARENA report and the U.S. ambassador's alleged interference in the CCE.

[Begin Meza Delgado recording] I am only going to answer the last part of the question, so that the other members of the council may expand on it, if they wish to do so, or refer to the other part of the question, such as the information of DIARIO DE HOY or of any other source that may have tried to misinform the public.

Concerning Ambassador Pickering, I do want to say that, just as with other ambassadors accredited in our country, we have most cordial relations with Ambassador Pickering; at no time have we felt any pressure from him regarding the electoral event. Therefore, Ambassador Pickering deserves our full respect, and we have the highest opinion of him following our contacts and exchanges of experiences in electoral matters.

We are also aware of the letter sent by Senator Jesse Helms to President Reagan concerning the activities of Ambassador Pickering. In this respect, we must say that this is a matter of internal politics of another country, and, as officials, we must be respectful of other friendly governments; consequently, we have nothing to say regarding purely internal matters of a government such as that of the United States, a true friend of our country.

However, we want to declare once and for all that at no time have we felt any pressure from Ambassador Pickering. On the contrary, he has offered only his fullest cooperation and willingness to help and advise us, based on his experiences, with some of our joint programs, well known to the public, such as the cooperation program signed with AID. [end recording]

The members of the CCE finally exhorted the press, particularly the reporters, to confirm the veracity of reports before publishing them and to act more seriously and responsibily.

CCE ON 6 MAY ELECTION, VENEZUELAN 'ADVISERS'

PA040310 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 May 84

[Raul Beltran report]

[Excerpt] At noon today, the Central Electoral Council [CCE] members, headed by Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal, held a news conference to clear up reports published in one of the San Salvador papers. Among other things, they denied a report that some 60,000 election ballots had been stolen or had disappeared from the printing shop. The CCE members said that this is completely false and that whoever published the report was trying to discredit the election process.

This morning members of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, verbally asked the CCE to intercede with the interior minister and the immigration office to expel from the country the technicians from the Venezuelan Popular Education Institute [Instituto Venezolano de Educacion Popular -- IVEPO] because they are openly participating in the country's political activities by giving advice to one of the contending political parties and serving as an espionage organization. ARENA had previously made overt references to the IVEPO. However, the CCE asked for a written request, to which ARENA representatives replied that their request was only verbal. Here are the most important details of CCE members' news conference. Here is Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal, whom we asked about the CCE's neutrality in next Sunday's elections.

[Begin Rodriguez Eguizabal recording] We want to reaffirm that the CCE's position in the run-off elections has not changed in any way from making every effort to hold completely impartial, honest, pure, and secure elections. The CCE maintains its impartiality toward the elections. We said prior to the 25 March elections that the CCE members had set partisan feelings aside to hold a national event of great importance. I want to take this opportunity to state in the name of the CCE a truth published by the domestic and foreign press to the effect that the 25 March elections were not fraudulent and that none of the foreign journalists who witnessed the elections reported any fraud. They said many things, but nothing about fraud. This means that the CCE achieved its objective on 25 March and that for the domestic credibility of the election process and for foreign repercussions of the election process it has been for El Salvador [short break in transmission] at home and abroad for the democratic avocation of our people. At the same time, we complied with our promise that the elections would not be and were not fraudulent. [end recording]

Venceremos on Ballot Theft

PA040201 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] Cristina Jacks, owner of the printing shop which produced the electoral ballots, has reported that 60,000 ballots were stolen from the printing shop, which is located in San Salvador.

Cristina Jacks said the theft of the 60,000 ballots was perpetrated when members of the Central Electoral Council and the Christian Democratic Party were guarding the material and the printing shop.

Once again, just as last 25 March, the mechanisms of an electoral fraud have begun.

VIDES ASSERTS ARMED FORCES' APOLITICAL ROLE

PA040055 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 May 84

[Report by Nelson Lopez]

[Excerpts] General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, defense and public security minister, this morning delivered a speech in which he once more reiterated the Armed Forces' apolitical role during the 6 May elections. General Vides Casanova said:

[Begin Vides Casanova recording] Salvadoran people, comrades in arms: On 7 May 1983 I pledged -- on behalf of the Armed Forces -- that one of our most sacred commitments to the people would be to safeguard the nation's democratic development, even if we had to sacrifice the lives of each and every one of us. To this end, a nine-point plan of action was applied to all the country's social and political sectors, a plan of reciprocal consequences and purposes, the results of which were ascertained during the 25 March electoral events and will be definitely confirmed on 6 May. On that date, the Salvadoran people will not only elect a new government, but also a national way of life that is in accordance with our current reality and with the country's international relations; it will be strong enough to achieve a definite peace, with the strength of the Salvadoran people's will, constructive efforts, and wisdom.

With due respect to the memory of our heroes and the sorrow of their mothers, the Armed Forces reiterate their allegiance to the homeland and pledge their lives so that next 6 May no one, absolutely no one, may coerce the people's right to vote. No one, absolutely no one, will be allowed to violate the norms that must prevail when the people exert their civic right. No one, except God and our people's will, shall guide the voters' hands when they mark their decisions on the ballot. I remind the Armed Forces that democracy is long overdue. We have pledged before the people to institutionalize democracy in the country, and now is the time to fulfill this pledge, because the people have faith in their Armed Forces. Destiny has assigned us a leading role in our country's history, and we are fulfilling it. We shall be loyal to our people, and we shall not thwart their faith in a democratic system. [end recording]

PCN STATES POSITION TOWARD RUN-OFF ELECTION

PA032301 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 3 May 84 p 67

[Statement by the National Conciliation Party, dated 30 April]

[Excerpt] The National Conciliation Party [PCN] leaders, members, support groups, sympathizers, and the Salvadoran people are advised that:

1. All PCN voters must exercise their right to vote next Sunday, thereby demonstrating their firmist support for the democratic process our country is experiencing. Abstention only favors the enemies of our way of life.

2. In order to be consistent with our democratic conviction, respect for the law, and tolerance of the ideas of others, and based on the fact that our party is not participating in the run-off election, we can state that it would be contradictory to impose a line of conduct on all our party leaders, members, and sympathizers to support either of the parties participating in the 6 May election. Therefore, we believe it is most democratic to permit all PCN voters to vote for the party they consider appropriate under the present circumstances, according to their consciences.

3. The name of the party, its symbols, its charter of principles and objectives, and the names and positions of its leaders must not be used at any time.

4. We reaffirm our commitment to struggle with the Salvadoran people in every area for pacification and respect for human rights, the strengthening of the democratic process, and economic reactivation based on respect and support for a just and humane free enterprise.

5. We appeal to all leaders, members, support groups, and sympathizers to remain united around our blue color, our emblem of interlaced hands, and our charter of principles and objectives, and to begin preparing ourselves for the next election campaign, for deputies and mayors in March 1985, in which we will demonstrate once more that it is with our moderate and balanced policy that rejects extremes that we can achieve the desired social justice through national conciliation for our long-suffering homeland.

PCN voters, all united for social justice and national conciliation.

Raul Molina Martinez, Hugo Roberto Carrillo, Betty de Rivas Duran, Igor Rubio Moran, Benjamin Wilfrido Navarrete, Arturo Ramiro Mendez Azahar, Pio Arnulfo Ayala, Francisco Jose Guerrero, Martin F. Zaldivar, Nazario Salaverria, Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal.

NEW ORGANIZATION THREATENS SUICIDE COMMAND

PA030450 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 30 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] A new secret organization calling itself the "Salvadoran Commission for the Preservation of Human Life" [Comision Salvadorena Para la Preservacion de la Vida Humana] has sent a communique to EL MUNDO warning the people not to be deceived by the threats made by the "Suicide Command."

The Suicide Command, which also emerged recently, has said in newspaper reports that "it will not be held responsible for the deaths of innocent people that may result when it takes action against some vehicles." The vehicles to which it refers are those used by military authorities, foreign advisers, officials of autonomous institutions, representatives of diplomatic missions, political leaders, deputies, and members of the CCE [Central Electoral Council].

The communique issued by the executive committee of the new organization says: "We address the self-styled Suicide Command to let its members and instigators know that we are investigating their activities and that we will publicly announce the names of the band's main leaders and the masterminds of its crimes.

"This commission repudiates all acts of violence, regardless of whether they respond to the interests of a party or a security corps. Neither the right nor the left has any right to spill one more drop of Salvadoran blood. Let the members of the Suicide Command not be deluded, because there is no impunity for truth and, in the final analysis, the cause of justice and human dignity always triumphs, even if it takes a long time.

"We know who they are: The people will react with amazement and astonishment the day they learn not only their names, but which national and foreign institutions are involved in this dirty affair.

"April 28, 1984. Executive Committee of the Salvadoran Commission for the Preservation of Human Life. Enough crimes!"

ESA ISSUES COMMUNIQUE, REPORTS ACTIVITIES

PA032252 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 May 84

[Report by Nelson Lopez]

[Text] Last night, when the political campaign had practically concluded, we received a communique issued by the Secret Anticommunist Army, ESA. The communique reported that at approximately 2200 on Monday, 30 April, the (Faustino Alvarenga) Sappers Commando placed an explosive device at the (Cuscatlan) Agency, located at Gerardo Barrios Street. The communique added that the device was placed in such a way that the blast would not damage adjacent buildings, because the agency was used as a warehouse by the national resistance groups.

The communique also reported that an explosive device was placed at the (Vigal) Drugstore, located at 11th South Avenue and Bolivar-Venezuela, Ferrocarril neighborhood The drugstore was used to store weapons by the Armed Forces of Liberation, FAL, an armed branch of the Communist Party of El Salvador. The communique adds that it was also a hide-out for FMLN members and a warehouse for materiel, medicines, and explosives -- which were used by rebel fronts located near San Salvador.

It also reported that on Tuesday, 1 May, other activities were carried out by the same sapper group of the ESA. They placed warning explosive devices at the following locations: the residences of Salvador Silis Burgos and Dr Lilian de Guadron -- who is considered a member of the national resistance groups' intelligence section -- and at the Metapaneca Gallery -- which is reportedly a storehouse of the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP.

To conclude the communique, the ESA issued a warning that the people living in those houses have 72 hours to leave the country from the date of the communique's publication. It also demands that the Armed Forces confiscate the house located in El Sousa Street, Ayutuxtepeque, because it was purchased with national resistance groups' funds. It asks the people to denounce all the communists in their neighborhoods, as the organization will blow up their premises, and it will not be held responsible for the consequences. Lastly, it asks the Armed Forces not to protect these kind of persons.

BRIGADE COMMANDER ON ARMY DEPLOYMENT, ELECTION

PA032126 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 May 84

[Interview with Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel, by Jorge Guadalupe Sorto; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Sorto] Colonel, we have learned that troops were deployed throughout the eastern areas last night.

[Monterrosa] Mr Sorto, we have been working for the past few months on this deployment; it was not only last night. The troops are everywhere.

Last night's activities can be described as extra activities. We are trying, within our means and determination, to guarantee Sunday's elections.

[Sorto] In a communique released to the media by the guerrillas, especially in the east, they said that on Sunday, 25 March, you filled the ballot boxes with votes for ARENA [Nationalist Republican Ailiance].

[Monterrosa] You have been one of the main witnesses when I have spoken to the civilian population to tell them our stance and the situation that our Armed Forces are experiencing. We are working to guarantee, as is the duty of the Armed Forces, that in the end the people will have the power and this will be our satisfaction. This can only happen through an election, as is done in any democratic country.

[Sorto] It is said that the use of chemical weapons will be necessary to control the rebels, and charges have been made recently that the rebels and the Army are using incendiary bombs. Does this not violate international law?

[Monterrosa] We are currently using our soldiers' determination to fight. The chemical weapons we are using are our hearts and minds to fight to achieve what our people desire, peace.

ARMY-REBEL MILITARY ACTIVITY IN CABANAS REPORTED

Army Thwarts Ilobasco Attack

PA030413 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 May 84

[Report by Mauricio Hernandez Bolanos from Sensuntepeque]

[Text] Military activities are continuing in Cabanas Department. Military authorities have reported that there have been two clashes with guerrillas in the last 24 hours in the areas of Ilobasco and Tejutepeque. The first clash took place on Monday, when the extremists attacked military positions in (Chicho Viejo) and (Los Alles) Cantons, in Ilobasco. Yesterday, at approximately 1030, heavy fighting took place at Concepcion Hill jurisdiction of El Trilladero canton, which belongs to the town of Tejutepeque. The fighting lasted for 5 hours. Colonel Carlos Alfredo Rivas, commander of Military Detachment No 2, reported on these incidents as follows:

[Begin recording] [Rivas] Military Detachment No 2 participated as part of a larger unit in operations in the area of Cinquera, Jutiapa, and Tejutepeque, in Cabanas Department, and also at the boundary between Cuscatlan and San Salvador Departments. It encountered subversive elements between Jutiapa and Tejutepeque, an area we are constantly patrolling to avert or prevent terrorists attacking the city of Ilobasco. The subversives' objective is to obstruct the electoral process of 6 May in the city of Ilobasco because it is one of the most densely populated cities in Cabanas and also a communications center in that department. Hindering the electoral process in that city would be very useful to them from a propaganda standpoint.

However, the Armed Forces Military Intelligence Service detected the attack plans for Ilobasco beforehand, and that is why we were able to prevent an attack. Units of Militar Detachment No 2 are participating as part of a larger unit conducting security and mop-up operations in the areas of Guazapa Hill, Tenancingo, Cinquera, Jutiapa, and Tejutepeque.

[Hernandez] What can you tell us about the results of the harassment operations of Monday and yesterday, when [words indistinct]. What was the casualty count on both sides?

[Rivas] On Monday morning, when our units were moving from Ilobasco to the areas of Jutiapa and Tejutepeque, we encountered subversives at a place known as (El Establo). This is a farm on the road to Tejutepeque. This situation was handled, and we suffered no casualties. We cannot confirm anything with regard to the subversives -- whether or not they suffered any casualties. On that day, at approximately 1030 -- or perhaps earlier -- our units also encountered subversives on Concepcion Hill and at the (Platanal) Canton, where we [words indistinct] until more or less (?1900). Military Detachment No 2 regrets the death of two of its soldiers in these actions. [end recording]

This was a report by Col Rivas on clashes that took place near Ilobasco on Monday and near Tejutepeque yesterday.

Cabanas Fighting, Casualties

PA040200 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpts] Sensuntepeque -- Armed Forces counterinsurgency operations continued yesterday for the third consecutive day in the towns of Ilobasco and Tejutepeque, Cabanas Department. YSU, always active in its quest for news, sent a reporter to the village of El Trilladero, located at (Cerro de Concepcion), Tejutepeque jurisdiction, where clashes were reported on Tuesday and Wednesday against rebel positions established in the area. In this concern, Captain Alexis Parker, who is in charge of the operations carried out by the military detachment in Sensuntepeque, revealed how the events developed:

[Begin recording] [Parker] A 0600 on Monday we began the 2d Lieutenant Milton Eduardo Mendoza Larios Torres Operation, which began when we neutralized a rebel ambush near (Los Frailes). The following day we encountered a group of terrorists who had taken over a position called (Cerro de Concepcion). Our clash with them lasted all day, and we inflicted approximately 10 dead on the enemy; this was ascertained by the rebels, corpses, but we believe they suffered additional casualties. Today we clashed with the enemy in the same place; when another military unit attacked from the north the rebels decided to withdraw toward their camps.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the number of casualties among the Armed Forces' and rebels' ranks?

[Parker] So far, the enemy has suffered 40 casualties during this operation; we also have to deplore the deaths of 2 soldiers and the wounding of 3 others. [end recording]

Rebel War Materiel Seized

PA032203 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] A total of 14 terrorists were killed yesterday during the military operation Army troops are carrying out in the western areas of Cabanas Department. Aside from the casualties, the following war materiel was recovered: an M-60 machinegun, three M-16 rifles, a G-3 rifle, four MT500 radios, four (TR2400) radios, two (SOC207) radios, two (Yaesu 230) radios, two (TRC 600 1 7) radios, a (TR2400) radio [as heard], a Yamaha (MY500) generator [planta], and a set of radio spare parts. A small clandestine hospital used to offer first aid to the wounded terrorists was also dismantled.

Two of the fourteen bodies were found in the church in El Zapote Canton, Jutiapa jurisdiction, where they had been abandoned by their companeros.

Venceremos on Clashes

PA040358 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Excerpt] On 1 May, International Labor Day, FMLN units clashed with forces of the 2d Military Detachment of Sensuntepeque who were advancing toward the town of Tejutepeque, Cabanas Department. The clashes lasted from 0800 to 1800 -- 10 hours of fighting against the Army that defends the rich oligarchs.

The dictatorship's reaction to our attack was to begin indiscriminate bombing of the Cantons of Primavera and Santa Olaya, Cabanas Department. On 2 May, at the Canton of Primavera, Cabanas Department, our forces launched an attack against units of the 2d Military Detachment of Sensuntepeque, wearing out the dictatorship's forces and inflicting on them 10 dead and 1 wounded -- a lieutenant who led one of the companies of the Army that protects the rich oligarchs who enjoy in Miami what they steal from the Salvadoran workers.

During these clashes in Cabanas Department, the FMLN army, the workers' army, recovered from the puppet Army two U.S.-made M-16 rifles and war supplies.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS FMLN TO MINE HIGHWAYS

PA040027 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] Attention, attention, Salvadoran people. We advise all the people traveling in privately owned vehicles and all the people of the transportation sector to abstain from traveling on the main highways of our country as of Friday, 4 May, because they will be mined by our forces. We repeat: All those driving privately owned cars, trucks, and buses of the transportation sector should avoid using the main highways of the country as of Friday 4 May, because they will be mined by our military units. No to the elections! Yes to the people's war!

VENCEREMOS ON U.S. MILITARY AID, DUARTE VICTORY

PA040317 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Excerpts] We have received information from the United States: THE WASHINGTON POST has reported that the U.S. House Armed Services Subcommittee did not approve the construction of three large U.S. military installations in Honduras.

All these plans were disapproved by the U.S. House of Representatives, as proof of the U.S. Congress' increasing rejection of Reagan's warmongering policy in Central America.

Clarence Long, head of the U.S. House of Representatives' Appropriations Committee, has reported that military aid to the Salvadoran regime will be given when the winner of the 6 May electoral farce is sworn in. The U.S. House of Representatives' decision is interpreted as a method of coercion so that Christian Democrat Napoleon Duarte will emerge as the winner of the elections. Political observers agree that Napoleon Durate is the favorite candidate of the United States. Duarte is the ideal man to provide a cover for the U.S. plan for military intervention in our homeland.

VENCEREMOS SCORES U.S. CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY

PA040259 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] Tens of thousands of U.S. soldiers are involved in the U.S. military maneuvers in the region. The U.S. State Department has highly praised the recent meeting held in Panama by the Contadora Group --comprised by Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama. The imperialist U.S. Government has repeatedly asserted its alleged support for the Contadora Group's peace efforts in the Central American region.

However, some of the Contadora Group member-countries' foreign ministers and other politicians, such as former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, have asserted that the United States is the main obstacle in the Contador Group's peace efforts. This is evidenced by the current military maneuvers in the Central American region, the mining of Nicaraguan ports, and the millions of dollars that Reagan's imperialist government is supplying to the Somozist bands and the genocidal Salvadoran Army. The United States supports war, not peace, in Central America.

FMLN ISSUES COMMUNIQUE TO MARK LABOR DAY

PA031607 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 2 May 84

[Communique issued by the FMLN General Command on the occasion of International Labor Day, released in El Salvador on 1 May 1984, signed by Commander Ferman Cienfuegos, Commander Leonel Gonzalez, Commander Joaquin Villalobos, Commander Roberto Roca, and Commander Shafic Jorge Handal -- read by announcer]

[Text] The FMLN General Command greets all Salvadoran workers on the occasion of 1 May, International Workers Day. This 1 May 1984 will be an important day for the Salvadoran workers to evaluate the stalwart struggles waged during the year under the worst repressive conditions imposed by the dictatorship. It is also a day to plan all those struggles still to be waged in accordance with the heroic and historic revolutionary actions that our people are victoriously carrying out under the leadership of their vanguard, the FMLN.

The FMLN highly values the struggle by the urban and rural workers who demand immediate social and economic improvements. Their growing incorporation in the ranks of the revolutionary army brings us closer to the glorious day of the people's victory against the Armed Forces, the puppet government, and their Yankee imperialist masters.

Victims of the brutal repression of the security forces and of the puppet Army, disguised or not as death squads, thousands and thousands of workers have been murdered, abducted, or massacred. Their only crime has been to demand employment, better wages, better treatment, freedom, and social justice. For several decades Salvadoran workers have shed their blood in heroic and combative struggles on the front lines of the people. The list of Salvadoran martyrs is headed by beloved labor leaders; as is quite natural and logical, many of the best leaders and activists of the labor movement today are emexplary fighters and leaders of the FMLN.

The struggle of our people has been long, hard, and filled with sacrifice, but all that sacrifice, effort, sweat, and bloodshed has not been in vain. All this has greatly contributed to the building of the people's movement that is today the true alternative of power. The constant and ever-growing revolutionary military victories show that the FMLN is growing in quality and quantity. Leading the people, it has defeated again and again the political and military plans of the dictatorship and Yankee imperialism.

Despite the outpouring of millions of dollars in weapons and equipment, all the modern technology and U.S. advice used in the special counterinsurgency war that the U.S. Government and their puppets are waging against the Salvadoran people, it is being defeated. The following are some figures that prove what we have said:

Since 10 January 1981 to date, we have inflicted more than 18,000 casualties -- dead, wounded, and prisoners -- on the enemy. We have recovered more than 6,000 weapons, a large amount of ammunition, and other materiel. We have dislodged the dictatorship's Armed Forces from one-third of our national territory, now under the FMLN's control. We have annihilated or disbanded whole companies, battalions, and even a whole brigade. All this is destroying the morale of the soldiers. Hundreds of soldiers surrender while others defect, and many join our combat units.

During the recent electoral farce held on 25 March, we were able to destroy, from the very beginning, the large and simultaneously mounted military operation involving Honduran and U.S. troops. We also controlled a very large area of Salvadoran territory, demonstrated by the fact that elections were not held in 86 municipalities. We are a real alternative of power. The advance toward victory is being made with the determined participation of the urban and rural workers who comprise the main body of our ranks together with the students, teachers, intellectuals, small-and medium-sized businessmen, and industrialists in our country who are involved in the various political and military tasks. We also have to recognize that the great international solidarity of the workers, democratic governments, political, social, and humanitarian organizations, and personalities from all over the world who have joined our struggle for freedom, independence, and peace have contributed greatly to the advances of our people's revolutionary struggle.

While the Salvadoran oligarchs take thousands of millions of dollars out of the country, the genocidal regime imposes a war economy that drastically reduces job sources, freezes wages, raises the price of basic products to unbearable levels, increases taxes, and forces the collapse of hundreds of small and medium businesses. The dictatorship imposes on the workers the economic costs of a war that the imperialist oligarchs are waging precisely to continue exploiting and oppressing them. The hundreds of millions of dollars in alleged military and economic aid that the U.S. Government is supplying and the loans that the IDB is granting with their respective interests, are monies that Reagan is planning to collect in the future from the Salvadoran people to force the working class to carry the economic burden of the war and stop them from struggling for their rights.

The dictatorship represses the people and murders their leaders. However, this is another desperate and useless effort that does not stop the workers because the people no longer wish to be mocked. The people know very well that they [the dictatorship] are trying to force them to serve as supporters; not only economic but human supporters in the war against the people. This is the meaning of the forceful and massive recruiting that the puppet army is carrying out to increase the number of its crumbling forces.

Companero workers, the enemies of our people are preparing a greater escalation of foreign military intervention in our country. To give it a political cover, they have stated their electoral farce that will enter its second round on 6 May. They are trying to fool the people by making them believe that the elections are a step forward in a political solution to the conflict, when the truth is that they are attempting to dress the dictatorship with a legal outfit, extend the war, and invade our homeland to trample the national sovereignty of El Salvador.

What kind of perspectives do the elections offer for the workers? Those aspiring for power are the same parties and people who have helped approve the decrees that freeze wages, that forbid strikes, and who approved a political Constitution that excludes agrarian reform.

Those aspiring to the government are the same parties and persons who promoted or tolerated the death squads, those who carried out or were the accomplices of many murders, including Msgr Romero's assassination.

The FMLN-FDR wants to reduce the social costs of an extended war and has presented a proposal for a political solution which is broad and flexible: The establishment of provisional government of broad participation resulting from negotiations, which must bring about the basic economic, political, and social changes that will permit the holding of free, authentic, and democratic elections. This government will be formed of representatives of the labor and peasant movement, the public employees, representatives of the National University and the UCA [Central American University], of the schools, political parties, and a purged Army.

The FMLN-FDR wants to prevent an intervention by foreign troops, but it also wants to make the invaders bite the dust of defeat, should they arrive in our country. In Vietnam they used chemical weapons and more bombs than the total number used during World War II. They sent thousands of Yankee soldiers, but in spite of this they were defeated. If they intervene in our country, they will be defeated again.

In saluting the workers on their day, the FMLN urges them to close ranks and join the various struggle drives, to demand the workers' legitimate economic and social demands, and to swell the ranks of our revolutionary army in order to achieve the true goals that guarantee freedom, justice, peace, and our homeland's independence. Let us demand just wage increases; let us demand the freedom to organize; let us join the FMLN ranks.

Long live the Salvadoran workers' heroic strike movement! Long live 1 May, day of the international solidarity of workers! United to fight until the final victory, revolution or death, we will win!

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT MEJIA VICTORES DISMISSES CHIEF JUSTICE

PA031959 Paris AFP in Spanish 1932 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 May (AFP) -- Official sources today reported that Guatemalan Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores today dismissed Ricardo Sagastume, president of the Supreme Court of Justice. Manuel Giron, secretary of the Presidency, stated that the head of state's decision is aimed at "giving more opportunities to young lawyers." He said that Gen Mejia has appointed Baudilio Navarro to replace Sagastume. Navarro assumed his new post today.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that the magistrates of the Supreme Electoral Board appointed by the Supreme Court "deplored" the change made by the military regime, although no further details of their reaction were known.

ARMY PATROL KILLS SEVEN REBELS IN EL QUICHE

PA030335 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] A report from the Army Information Department has revealed that on Monday, 30 April, near the town of Tunaja, Zacualpa jurisdiction, in El Quiche Department, a military patrol from Military Zone No 20 clashed with a group of unidentified armed men.

The action took place at 2200, when the patrol discovered a guerrilla camp near the town and opened fire on its occupants. The ensuing shooting forced the rebels to flee from the site of the action.

The military report said that seven men, none of whom have been identified, were killed in the clash. The patrol took their weapons and other belongings. The authorities dismantled the subversive camp and found medicine, food, weapons, first-aid kits, and subversive propaganda. Finally, the report noted that the military patrol suffered no casualties.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA RETURNS, DISCUSSES CONTADORA

PA032348 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1648 GMT 3 May 84

[News conference granted by Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica upon his arrival in Tegucigalpa on 3 May -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Paz Barnica] While a very valuable exercise is carried out by Contadora and an intellectual conception is presented, reality is different that formality does not effectively correspond to reality.

A technical group will draft a general agreement plan under the hegemony, the decision-making ability, of the five Central American countries, not of the four Contadora Group countries, who will participate as mediators only.

There was a very clear proposal by the various foreign ministers. This proposal was frank and genuine, but also reserved.

Contadora must propose some formula of agreement for those topics on which there was no agreement in the peace commissions. What are those topics? They are the most important, as I see them: arms buildup, democratization, human rights, and reconciliation processes. And why hasn't there been an agreement in the working commissions? Simply because Nicaragua opposed such an agreement. While Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras agreed on a constructive stance so that an arms inventory could be taken, the number of arms and men could be established, and there could be a military [word indistinct] in the region, Nicaragua was adamant in the working commissions [words indistinct].

Nicaragua will continue to increasingly arm itself. This was reiterated by Foreign Minister D'Escoto in the presence of the other foreign ministers. Nicaragua will not admit any measures that limit its ability to arm and defend itself. D'Escoto added that Nicaragua's problem is not with its neighboring countries but with the United States, which is a world power.

There is marked concern on the part of the Contadora Group's foreign ministers, because the Group's efforts are entering a period of (?disaster) [words indistinct]. While the Contadora Group countries are making valuable contributions for pacification in Central America, these countries are worried.

[Unidentified reporter] Has there been a war of words between the Honduran foreign secretary and the Costa Rican foreign minister?

[Paz Barnica] No. There was no confrontation between the Costa Rican foreign minister and the Honduran foreign secretary during the meeting.

Someone asked me over the telephone whether I would be [words indistinct]. I imagine this is due to statements made to newsmen. I was (?accosted) by both national and foreign newsmen at the entrance to the meeting place. I imagine D'Escoto [as heard] was also being (?accosted). [Words indistinct], let something be very clear: There has been no war of words. Such a notion is entirely false. There was a cordial, frank meeting.

PRESIDENT SUAZO CORDOVA ADDRESSES WORKERS

PA030346 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 May 84

[Address by President Roberto Suazo Cordova to Honduran workers on 1 May, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Workers of my country, with confidence in our fate I come before you to express my warmest congratulations and my full identification with your heartfelt and just aspirations. Here in Honduras, in a Liberal government born of the people's will, the first labor code was issued with laws regulating relations among production factors, under circumstances in which we had been accused -- those of us who promoted the initiative -- of being against democracy and being mentally retarded, amid statements that the code had no reason to exist because it was antihistorical. In this same manner, the conservatives balk at the constitutional government that I preside over with diatribes of injustice and calumny.

We have carried out concrete actions to ensure the existence of various worker organizations, granting them legal status.

We cannot deny that we are experiencing difficult times that require sacrifice, confidence, and participation by all Hondurans. We have inherited a situation full of misfortune, and we now have the responsibility of solving problems that we did not create, in an international situation that mainly affects the fate of underdeveloped countries. This is why I send to the workers of my fatherland, on this very important date, an ethical and spiritual message. Let them share with us the constitutional government freely and legitimately elected by the Honduran people, the extraordinary task of making Honduras succeed, so that those who follow us will not have to receive an inheritance as deplorable as the one we received.

EPS MINES ROADS TO PREVENT MISKITOS' EXODUS

PA030358 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Troops of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] is continuing to mine Honduran roads bordering on Nicaragua to prevent the exodus of their fellow countrymen to our country. The well-known old paths near the Nicaraguan border, which have been used by Nicaraguans fleeing their country, have been the site for placing a considerable amount of equipment and mines which explode at the slightest pressure. The situation is made even worse because the Sandinists have mined roads on Honduran territory, in open violation of our national sovereignty. To offer more eloquent evidence of this, we recall the death of two U.S. newsmen when their vehicle hit mines on the road to Las Trojes.

The report on new mining operations near the border area was sent to HRN by anti-Sandinist rebel groups. They said that hundreds of mines have been placed in specific places and that some of their companeros have been victims of the mines, but in most cases the victims are innocent people.

Honduran authorities have been indifferent to the serious problem facing Honduran Miskito Indians as a result of the presence of thousands of refugees of that same tribe coming out of Nicaragua. As of April, at least 25,000 Nicaraguan Miskito Indians had taken refuge in Honduran territory, (?fleeing) from the political system established by their country's rulers. The problems resulting from the presence of thousands of refugees is a sole and exclusive concern of the media, not of the government authorities, who only record statistics. The number of Nicaraguan Miskito Indians taking refuge in Honduras is almost 165 percent greater than the number of Honduran Miskitos. This suggests that local Miskitos will soon be completely displaced by the refugees in the area -- a situation that is already apparent.

The Honduran Miskitos claim that the refugees enjoy more and better aid services than they do. This has resulted in a sort of discrimination that must be resolved now; otherwise it could result in serious ethnic problems later.

NICARAGUA

COSTA RICA ACCUSED OF STAGING 'SELF-ATTACK'

PA040413 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0233 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] Managua, 3 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government tonight stated that what happened at the Costa Rican border was not a military attack against that country's police but a "self-attack" prepared by that force. This was the account given by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto to his Costa Rican counterpart, Carlos Jose Gutierrez, on the incidents that have placed relations between the two countries at their "lowest level."

Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera called local and foreign reporters to a news conference to explain the Nicaraguan version of what the San Jose government described as a "Sandinist attack against the police" of that country. Quoting an official note, the official explained that Nicaraguan troops on the border point at Penas Blancas heard 15 mortar shots, machinegun and rifle bursts, and M-79 grenade explosions in Costa Rican.

The Managua Foreign Ministry deemed the firing "a self-attack by the Costa Rican Rural Guard, showing its complicity in the plans conceived by the U.S. Administration." According to the Sandinist foreign minister, an investigation "proved that rural guardmen fired the shots, and there was no evidence that any fragments fell in Nicaraguan."

According to the Managua Foreign Ministry, the Nicaraguan observation posts on the southern border reported that the shots fell in Costa Rican, from which they had been fired, near the Sapoa River 100 meters from the Nicaraguan border. The Managua authorities also reported that the "self-attack" coincided with evacuation activities at the Costa Rican customs and immigration installations, "which clearly indicates that it is all a response to artificially-created incidents, within the CIA's plans."

In the note from D'Escoto to Gutierrez, Nicaragua "strongly and formally" protests before the Costa Rican Government the "CIA" maneuver, which Managua typified as "desperate." According to the Sandinist version, the incidents on the Costa Rican border were intended "to justify and legitimize the U.S. military presence in Costa Rica." According to Managua, it is now Costa Rica's turn to assume the functions that had been "assigned" to the Honduran Government, "based on aggression" against Nicaragua.

The deputy foreign minister admitted that the relations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica "are difficult." He confirmed that the Costa Rican ambassador here, Jesus Hernandez, had been recalled for consultations by his government, "but it is expected that he will return to Managua in the next few weeks."

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENOUNCES HONDURAN ARMY ATTACK

PA031405 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1348 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Managua, 3 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry today denounced a new armed attack by the Honduran Army on a border town in northwest Nicaragua. According to the official source, approximately 100 Honduran Army soldiers and "Somozist mercenaries" yesterday attacked the town of Santo Tomas del Nance, 200 meters from the border in Chinandega Department. As a result of the attack, a girl and an elderly woman were wounded. The town of Santo Tomas del Nance has been previously attacked by anti-Sandinist groups.

FRANCE'S DEBRAY MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

PA031818 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] A high-level French Government delegation is in our country to learn about our reality firsthand. The delegation, led by Regis Debray, an adviser to President Francois Mitterrand, arrived yesterday on an official visit. The other members of his party are Bernard Dorin, director of American affairs at the French External Relations Ministry; and Pierre Vendorn, a member of Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy's staff.

The distinguished delegation was received at the Augusto C. Sandino Airport by Jane Debenest, the French ambassador in Nicaragua, and by Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga. The prominent visitors met with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman yesterday at noon. The French delegation will remain in Nicaragua for 7 days. In that time, they will meet with members of both the FSLN National Directorate and the revolutionary government.

It is worth noting that the French Government has strongly condemned the mining of Nicaragua's ports and has offered technical aid to our country in removing the mines. Meanwhile, a ship chartered by France and bearing 10,000 tons of medicine collected by French solidarity committees is expected to arrive in June.

ARMY CLAIMS HEAVY CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON FDN

PA031424 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The Sandinist People's Army in April inflicted over 300 casualties on the counterrevolutionary bands that penetrated into northern Jinotega, where they tried to seize several villages, AGENCIA DE NOTICIAS NUEVA NICARAGUA has reported. The dead mercenaries belonged to the two leading commandos of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, which infiltrated the national territory in March in one of the largest counterrevolutionary offensives, involving 8,000 mercenaries. According to the source, the task force led by former Somozist guardsman Mike Lima is fleeing toward Honduras after engaging in a clash in Kilambe Hill, where Lima's group lost about 100 men. About 50 others were wounded in that clash, and more than 10 others were captured.

The contras' plans had called for occupying the towns of Pantasma, Wiwili, and uilali in northern Nicaragua.

JUNTA DECREE: STATE COUNCIL SESSION BEGINS 4 MAY

PA032004 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 May 84

[Decree issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in Managua on 26 April]

[Text] Whereas:

1. The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction [JGRN] must declare open the sessions of the State Council, in accordance with Article 1 of Decree No 388 of 2 May 1980;

Therefore, in the performance of its duties, the JGRN decrees:

Article 1. The fifth term State Council sessions is convoked, in accordance with the State Council's general statutes, and therefore the members appointed by political, labor, popular, professional, and social organizations that comprise the State Council are summoned to the preparatory session and the delivery of credentials ceremony at 1000 on Friday, 4 May 1984, the Day of National Dignity, at the State Council's Martyrs of 22 January 1967 Building.

Article 2. The Supreme Court of Justice will preside over the preparatory session, at which the State Council's board of directors will be elected in accordance with Decree No 388 of 2 May 1980.

Article 3. The members appointed by political, labor, popular, professional, and social organizations are summoned to the formal opening ceremony for the fifth term of State Council sessions. The JGRN will preside over the ceremony to take place at 1800 on Friday, 4 May 1984, the Day of National Dignity, at the State Council's Martyrs of 22 January 1967 Building.

Article 4. As long as the state of national emergency remains in effect, the application of Article 12 of Decree No 388 of 2 May 1980 is suspended.

The State Council president is authorized to decide on the dates upon which the council's sessions will be held.

Article 5. This decree will take effect at the time of its publication by any media, and will be published afterwards in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Issued in Managua on 26 April 1984; 50 years later, Sandino lives!

[Signed] The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Sergio Ramirez Mercado, and Rafael Cordova Rivas

COMMUNIQUE SCORES U.S. CHEMICAL WEAPONS POLICY

FL031504 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The Cuban Foreign Ministry has firmly reiterated its rejection of the use, manufacture, and storage of chemical weapons and has issued a call for observance of the chemical weapons protocol approved in 1925 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Cuban Foreign Ministry has observed in a statement that U.S. President Ronald Reagan recently announced to the press that his country should maintain and improve its chemical weapons arsenal. This arsenal is estimated at about 150,000 tons of toxic substances plus 3 million shells stored in the United States, FRG, and on Johnston Atoll, located in the Pacific Ocean. President Reagan's announcement matches his recent request for an increase in military spending of $1.1 billion for the development of chemical weapons.

U.S. Vice President George Bush presented a plan to the Geneva Disarmament Conference. The Cuban statement says that this plan contributes nothing new to the universal desire for the effective prohibition of the production, storage, and use of chemical weapons, but that, in fact, it represents an attempt to establish a basis for the justification of an increase in the number of U.S. chemical weapons. Bush's plan constitutes blackmail in an attempt to pressure socialist, progressive nations, and all peace-loving forces into accepting the ignominious Yankee demands. The communique of the Cuban Foreign Ministry vigorously rejects this new step in the adventurous imperialist policy that can only lead -- the document adds -- to new heart-rending suffering of the peoples.

LATIN Adds Details

PA031604 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0908 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpts] Havana, 3 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Cuban Government last night officially accused the United States of increasing its arsenal of chemical weapons in an attempt to obtain military supremacy over the Socialist bloc.

"It is evident," the Cuban declaration said, "that the Reagan administration is only trying to increase its production of chemical weapons which could possibly be used against other peoples in its desire to become the international gendarme." The declaration said that "the Yankee imperialists, in their frantic arms buildup, do not stop at anything and are continuing their cruel policy of trying to achieve military supremacy over the socialist camp and of imposing their designs over the international community."

GRANMA REPORTS SUGAR HARVEST BEHIND SCHEDULE

FL031930 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpt] GRANMA today published an article on Cuba's sugar industry under the title of "The Harvest Situation and the Extraordinary Effort it Requires." The newspaper presents a study of Cuba's main industry, sugar, and this industry's situation up until the beginning of May. GRANMA says that when Comrade Fidel spoke at the closing session of the 15th CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] Congress, cane cutting was behind schedule by more than 200 million arrobas and sugar production by 423,000 tons from the production goals. By 1 May the delay had increased to 497 million arrobas of cane and 1,117.000 tons of sugar behind plan.

After mentioning the natural causes which hindered normal production, GRANMA referred to the negative effects which this low production has on the economy and on the sugar industry, and said that a decrease of 1 million tons of sugar creates all kinds of foreign trade difficulties.

Workers Pledge To Work Harder

FL040034 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] Cuban sugar workers have expressed their decision to answer the call made in a front-page article published in GRANMA today, which noted the current sugar harvest situation. On the agroindustrial complexes, the workers collectives studied the call to recover a significant portion of the 1,117,000-ton sugar deficit that was registered on 1 May. In all cases, it was unanimously agreed to respond with an extraordinary effort to reduce the deficit to a minimum.

SOLIDARITY MEETING DEMANDS END TO INTERVENTION

FL031544 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] A demand for an immediate end to the U.S. imperialist intervention in El Salvador and aggression against Nicaragua was made at the meeting of solidarity with Central America and the Caribbean held in the Cuban capital. Delegations of workers from the more than 40 countries invited to the May Day celebration attended the meeting, presided over by Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the Politburo and Secretary General of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC]. The guests were greeted by Jesus Escandel, member of the CTC Executive Secretariat. Escandel contrasted the difference between the happy celebration of May Day in Cuba and events in other countries such as Chile, the Dominican Republic, and Western Europe, where demonstrations by workers and masses of unemployed were suppressed.

PUERTO RICAN FISHERMEN OBSTRUCT U.S. MANEUVERS

FL031757 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1315 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The U.S. maneuvers taking place on Vieques Island, off Puerto Rico, have been hindered by fishermen in the area who are not allowing military vehicles to transport bombs being used in "Ocean Venture-84." The fishermen are hindering access to the U.S. Marine munitions center on Vieques.

Last Sunday, 60,000 Puerto Ricans held a protest march against the U.S. militarization of Puerto Rico. Some 30,000 soldiers from all parts of the Armed Forces are participating in the "Ocean Venture-84" maneuvers, the largest exercises that the Pentagon has carried out in the Caribbean. The maneuvers will continue until 6 May.

FIGHTING BETWEEN SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS, MILITARY

FL031358 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1239 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Heavy fighting broke out over the last few hours between Salvadoran rebel forces and government troops in Cabanas and Cuscatlan Provinces of El Salvador. The heaviest fighting took place in Tejutepeque, Jutiapa, Cinquera, (Ilocallo), (Entrigado), Concepcion, and in Sensuntepeque, capital of Cabanas Province. The guerrillas attacked military positions with heavy artillery fire, while the government's artillery continues to bomb large densely populated areas in Cabanas Province.

Meanwhile, guerrilla commandos have taken over several stretches of the highway in eastern El Salvador. The rebels now control communications to Corinto City, Morazan Province, and to Santa Rosa de Lima, La Union Province. In an effort to check the guerrilla offensive, the Salvadoran regime's high command was forced to immediately mobilize its elite battalions and 1st Infantry Brigade troops to try to contain the guerrilla advance. The guerrillas were detected by U.S. spy planes.

ATTACKS AGAINST NICARAGUA; 5 WOUNDED, BOAT SUNK

FL031604 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Managua -- New attacks against Nicaragua have left a toll of 5 civilians wounded, 1 fishing boat sunk, and resulted in many strongly worded protest notes being sent to the United States.

On Monday morning, a Piranha-type boat attacked the Puerto Potosi guard post on the Gulf of Fonseca. The same day, a military boat tried to enter Corinto, but the Sandinist Navy repelled it.

On Wednesday, a Nicaraguan fishing boat hit one of the mines emplaced by U.S.-backed commandos in Corinto, and sank while being towed to port. The captain and two sailors were wounded in the explosion.

Meanwhile, 200 Honduran soldiers and mercenaries attacked Santo Tomas de Nance village, wounding an 11-year-old girl and an elderly woman.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto asked U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to cease these illegal actions immediately.

NICARAGUAN EDUCATION MINISTER ON SCHOOL CLOSURES

PA031457 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Nicaraguan Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman has said that the Sandinist revolution will continue its struggle against ignorance and that, in an open challenge to the counterrevolution, it has built schools and institutes in areas whose civilian populations are continuously attacked by mercenary bands.

However, Tunnerman added, the struggle to educate the people has also produced casualties, adding that 135 popular teachers and 23 grade school teachers have fallen while on duty in Nicaragua.

During an assembly of Education Ministry workers held in Managua, the minister declared that as a result of counterrevolutionary actions, 138 schools in combat areas are closed. He added that 674 popular education centers have been suspended for the same reason. He said the mercenary bands have either destroyed or seriously damaged 15 schools and have prevented the completion of another 27.

MEXICANS INDIGNANT OVER KILLING OF REFUGEES

FL040046 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] The killing of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico by troops of the Guatemalan military tyranny has provoked widespread indignation among the Mexican people. The Mexican press reports that President De la Madrid's government will remain firm in its policy of defending the lives and human rights of the Guatemalan refugees.

BRAZIL CANCELS EMERGENCY MEASURES IN BRASILIA

PA031757 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Brazilian President General Joao Baptista Figueiredo has canceled the emergency measures that he issued 2 weeks ago for Brasilia and 10 neighboring municipalities. Effective midnight, the restrictions that limited the rights of assembly and association and radio and television censorship will be lifted in that Brazilian region.

TWO INJURED IN BOMB EXPLOSION IN CHILE

PA031800 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Two people were injured by a bomb explosion at a taxi stop in the Maipu neighborhood of western Santiago, Chile. Chilean authorities reported three other attacks in Santiago which did not cause any casualties.

In Caracas, the Chilean Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, issued a document denouncing the military regime's attempts to hold courts-martial for combatants of the popular resistance.

FRG EMBASSY GUARD IN LIMA SHOT, WOUNDED

PA031803 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] A policeman guarding the FRG Embassy in Lima, Peru, was seriously wounded in the abdomen by a burst of machinegun fire from alleged terrorists, press reports indicate. Moments earlier, another policeman was wounded in a Lima neighborhood. In both cases, the attackers seized the policemen's weapons. In addition, three police stations, two banks, and other buildings were attacked with explosives on Tuesday in Chaclayo and Chosica districts in Lima Department.

LATIN AMERICANS HOLD DEMONSTRATIONS ON MAY DAY

PA031551 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Before more than 250,000 persons who gathered in Santiago, Chile, to commemorate International Workers Day, the president of the national workers' command, Rodolfo Seguel, called for the resignation of the chief of the Chilean regime, General Augusto Pinochet. The police forces of the fascist junta repressed the demonstration, which had been officially authorized. According to Chilean radio reports, over 100 persons were wounded and 120 arrested.

In Montevideo, nearly 300,000 Uruguayans, called by the Inter-Union Workers' plenum and the National Workers' Convention [Convencion Nacional de Trabajadores], both outlawed, demanded everything from wage increases to the release of nine Tupamaro leaders that the Uruguayan regime is holding as hostages. In Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, over 20,000 demonstrators marched through the main streets of that capital commemorating the 1 May labor festivities. The protesters denounced the censorship of the regime of Suazo Cordova due to the ever-growing U.S. presence in Honduran territory, and demanded the ouster of the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, who, aided by the CIA, carry out attacks against Nicaragua.

Other massive demonstrations took place in commemoration of International Workers Day in Bolivia, Costa Rica, Peru, and Mexico, while in Guatemala, several labor and political organizations denounced the heartless repression by the regime against the people.

ETHIOPIAN MAY DAY CELEBRATED BY OPENING PLANT

PA031630 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] The Cuban internationalist construction workers helping to build a cement factory in (Muger), Ethiopia, today celebrated International Workers Day by inaugurating a grinding plant. For the past 2 years, workers and technicians from Cuba, the GDR, and Ethiopia have been building this important factory, which has been described as a genuine example of fraternal cooperation among socialist countries, and as the major industrial work undertaken in that African nation during its revolutionary process.

JAMAICA

CURRENCY DEVALUED UNDER INFLUENCE OF IMF PROGRAM

FL031934 Bridgetown CANA in English 1706 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 3 (CANA) -- The Jamaica dollar has slipped in value again, this time by a near 4.0 percent in the latest of a series of crawling peg devaluations under the influence of an International Monetary Fund (IMF) stabilisation programme.

Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Edward Seaga has signed a new parity order moving outwards the upper and lower limits of the 30 Jamaican cents band within which the local currency may float against the American dollar.

This means that from today the Jamaican dollar can be valued at between J3.85 dollars and J4.15 dollars for the American dollar -- 15 cents higher at both ends of the scale than at the time of the last devaluation mid last month.

The actual exchange rate used by commercial banks for the U.S. and Jamaican currencies is what clears a twice weekly auction operated by the Central Bank to allocate scarce foreign exchange.

However, this is a mere formality in terms of rate setting for with the scarcity of foreign exchange and purchasers hardly able to get full requirements, bids are at the maximum allowable limit -- the top end of the scale minus four cents.

As a result, after today's auction, commercial banks are likely to buy the U.S. dollar at J4.11 dollars and sell at J4.15 dollars.

Up to last November the official rate was J1.78 dollars for one U.S. dollar.

The Central Bank is today auctioning 6 million dollars (U.S.).

There appears to be some stabilising of the currency market since Seaga, during talks with the IMF last month, was able to get the Fund to agree to allow the Central Bank to include in its auction bids to meet imports which arrived in Jamaica on or after February 1.

A special arrears scheme is being set up to clear obligations due prior to February and these debts, the government expects, will be cleared over a one year period.

As a result, at Tuesday's auction, bidders for the first time received the full amount of foreign exchange they sought out of the U.S. 8.5 million dollars the Central Bank had to sell.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHAMBERS REPORTEDLY TO MISS JULY CARICOM SUMMIT

FL032314 Bridgetown CANA in English 2133 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, May 3 (CANA) -- Whitehall, office of Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister George Chambers, today declined comment on press reports here that he will not be attending the Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government summit slated for July in the Bahamas.

The TRINIDAD GUARDIAN today quoted "reliable sources close to the prime minister" as saying that Chambers will not travel to Nassau for the meeting, as he was planning a trip to the Far East around that time.

The paper said it understood that the Trinidad and Tobago delegation will be led by Labour Minister Errol Mahabir.

"The feeling in government circles is that little would be achieved at the Bahamas summit in the light of the inexorable breakdown in trade within the community over the last two years," said the GUARDIAN.

It quoted an unnamed government source as saying that Trinidad and Tobago had played the "Caricom Game" fairly and squarely and had contributed "more than any of its members in terms of direct and indirect assistance" to promote the integration movement.

The source complained that this oil-rich state's contribution to Caricom "has not been appreciated or reciprocated by other Caricom partners and that has been a source of disappointment to the prime minister and his government."

The government source pointed to the Common Market agreement currently being "frustrated" because of balance of payments problems being experienced by some member countries, and also noted the breakdown of the Caricom multilateral clearing facility, a credit mechanism to enhance intra-regional trade.

Because of the present economic downturn in the region, the feeling is that Trinidad and Tobago must seek to protect its own market and its own manufacturing sector against unfair competition and a failure in reciprocity, the GUARDIAN said.

It echoed an earlier report published by the TRINIDAD EXPRESS that Chambers planned to visit China later in the year.

The prime minister will also reportedly visit Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Federal Republic of Germany to discuss trade and to seek to redress trade imbalances between those countries and Trinidad and Tobago.

Last February, Chambers told the annual convention of his People's National Movement (PNM) that he planned to make some trips abroad to help promote the country's export thrust. He did not name any countries at the time.

Chambers attended the two previous Caricom summits in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, in 1982, and in Trinidad and Tobago last year.

RESISTANCE GROUP TO MEET WITH BOUTERSE

FL031354 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The Surinamese resistance organization Amsterdam People's Resistance, the AVZ, under the leadership of former Minister Andre Haakmat, plans to send a delegation to Paramaribo after all in order to conduct talks with military leader Desi Bouterse. This is in spite of a statement by Lieutenant Colonel Bouterse that he has nothing to discuss with the resistance.

On Wednesday, the AVZ had a 3-hour discussion with Ambassador [words indistinct] Hank Herrenberg. The AVZ said the talks were constructive. According to the Surinamese ambassador, the Amsterdam People's Resistance has made a number of suggestions and proposals on which they will present a report to the Surinamese Government.

MEDIA CAN RESUME RESTRICTED OPERATIONS

FL031322 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Three of the Surinamese media which have ceased operations since December 8, 1982 will be allowed to resume their activities this week. They are the daily (DE WEK) and two private radio stations in (Atempi) and (Rapal). (DE WEK) is reappearing today, and the two radio stations will resume broadcasting on Friday, according to AMP sources.

After talks between Prime Minister Udenhout and the owners of the media, instructions were drawn up which the media must follow unconditionally. These guidelines will remain in force until the so-called media report has been drawn up. The guidelines stipulate that the media must do everything in their power to contribute to developments which can serve the national interest. The media must refrain from publications and programs which could be damaging in any way to national interests, security, or law and order. In a case of doubt, the media must turn to the prime minister for advice before publication or broadcast.

Publications which are harmful to public order and morals are forbidden. Foreign publications about Suriname may only be used if permission to do so has been given by the prime minister. If the media fail to adhere to these guidelines or violate their spirit, the government will suspend or withdraw their license.

The daily (DE WEK) will print 3,000 copies for the time being. The radio stations at (Atempi) and (Rapal) have indicated that they want to offer the same programs as before, namely, news and music.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ANDEAN PESO PROPOSED AT REGIONAL PARLIAMENT

PY031445 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] President Belaunde has stated that the time has come to create the Andean peso so Andean countries will be able to counter inflation firmly and resolutely. The head of state made this proposal when opening the fourth session of the Andean Parliament at the Peruvian Congress. President Belaunde noted the need to create a currency that will facilitate regional trade operations without having to resort to foreign currencies and without affecting the exchange market.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRD PUBLISHING NEW BIWEEKLY NEWSPAPER

FL031856 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 24 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] The Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) has put a new newspaper in circulation to disseminate information on its activities and doctrines. The newspaper is called TRIBUNA DEMOCRATICA. It will be published every 2 weeks under the direction of Deputy Tony Raful, director of the PRD's National Press and Propaganda Department. The managing board of the biweekly publication consists of Rafael Flores Estrella, administrative secretary of the presidency, Rafael Gamundi Cordero, Jose Rafael Lantigua, Rafael F. Santana, and Aridio Garcia de Leon.

Appearing in the first edition of TRIBUNA DEMOCRATICA are interviews of PRD leader Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, First Lady Asela Mera de Jorge, and Luis Decamps, vice president of Dominican Revolutionary Youth [Juventud Revolucionaria Dominicana].

ECUADOR

LABOR DAY MARCHERS PROTEST GOVERNMENT POLICIES

PA030402 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Thousands of labor, peasant, and neighborhood organizations marked worker's day throughout the country yesterday with marches and slogans rejecting the government's economic policy, the IMF's intervention, and the National Reconstruction Front's candidate.

In Quito a massive march of approximately 18,000 to 25,000 people marched from the 10 August Plaza to the San Francisco Plaza. Following speeches by the most important labor and peasant leaders, the ceremony concluded with artistic presentations. According to (Fausto Dutan), the acting president of the United Workers Front, the march was evidence of the strength of the country's popular groups: it reiterated their classist stand toward the two candidates vying for the presidency of the Republic.

In Guayaquil posters carried by demonstrators called for the people's unity to face oligarchy and to strengthen popular organizations, because they are the only option for defending the interests of the country's masses.

PARAGUAY

PRF LEADER SAYS 'FEAR' DEFEATED IN COUNTRY

PY040044 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1916 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Madrid, 3 May (EFE) -- Euclides Acevedo, secretary general of the Paraguayan Febrerista Revolutionary Party [PRF], today told EFE that "fear has been defeated" in Paraguay.

Euclides Acevedo arrived in Madrid to participate tomorrow in a television roundtable on "dictatorship and democracy," on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of General Stroessner's regime.

Mario Soares, Portuguese chief of state; Adolfo Suarez, former Spanish prime minister; Alejandro Lanusse, former Argentine president; and Aureliano Chaves, former [as received] Brazilian vice president, will participate in this roundtable, among others.

In his statement to EFE, Euclides Acevedo said that "the anniversary of the dictatorship has come together with a hardening of the regime, which rather than being a sign of strength is a sign of weakness."

Acevedo confirmed "the rumors that General Stroessner is suffering from a serious disease," and added that "this situation is being celebrated with a surreptitious struggle for power between civilians and military men."

Acevedo reported that "the hopes for an opening are vanishing now after the probably irreversible closure of the newspaper ABC COLOR and the refusal to allow exiled leaders such as the Liberal Domingo Laino and the Christian Democrat Resck to return to the country."

PRESIDENT DEPARTS FOR BRAZIL TO MEET FIGUEIREDO

PY031355 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 1341 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] This morning President Alfredo Stroessner left for Uberaba, Brazil, accompanied by Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro, Agriculture Minister Hernando Bertoni, and Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion. President Stroessner will attend a cattle fair in that city with Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo.

PERU

LIMA MAYOR DENIES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PY031851 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpt] Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrantes has denied his possible presidential candidacy in the 1985 elections, thus dismissing reports made by some leftist newspapers to the effect that the United Left [IU] rank and file had decided to propose his name.

Barrantes said that no candidacy was discussed during the IU (?national) meeting held a few days ago.